15

RAVE MASTER™

Hiro Mashima

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15

Rave Master 15

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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RAVE MASTER™

VOLUME 15

Story and Art by

HIRO MASHIMA

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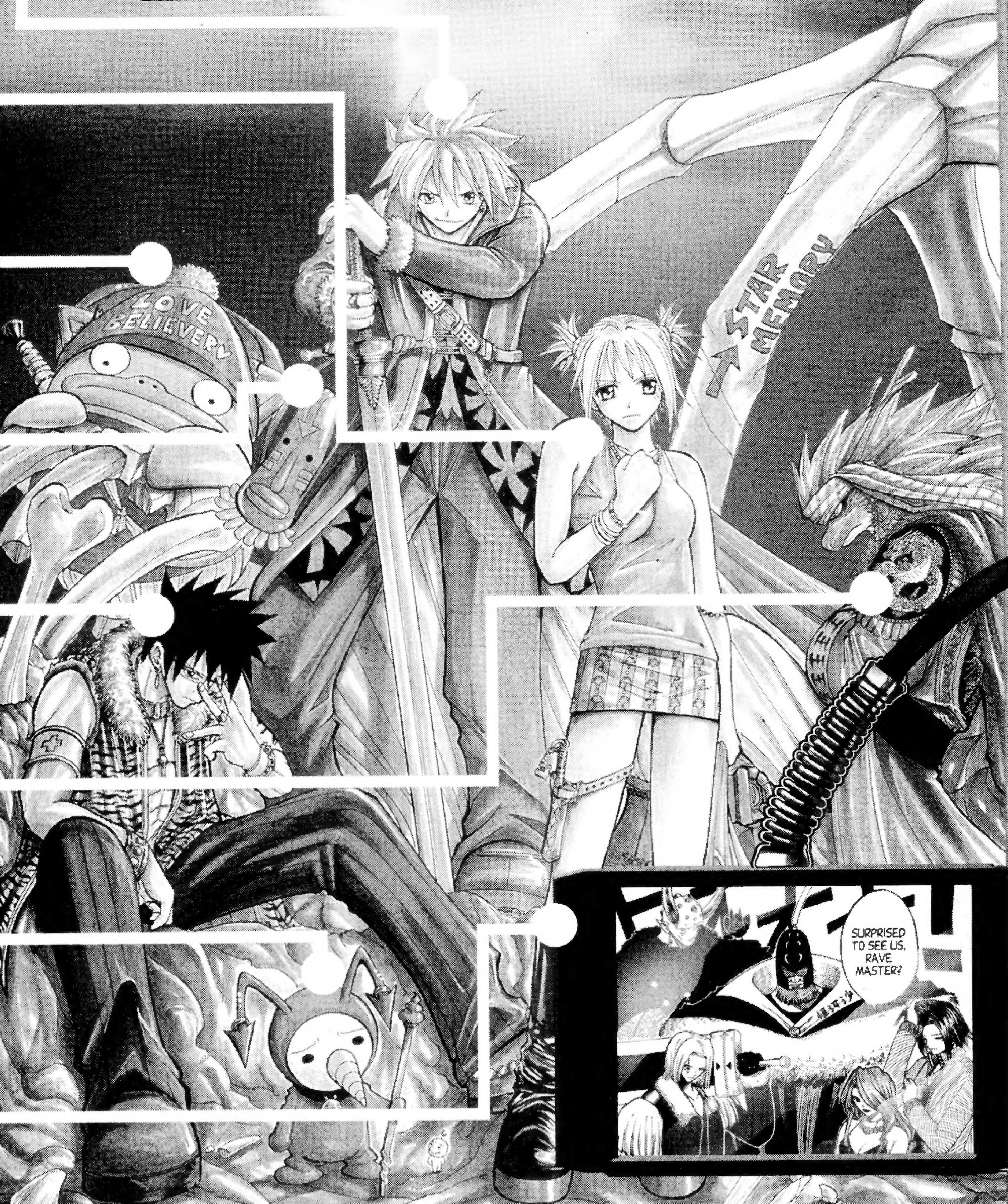
LOVE BELIEVER
STAR MEMORY
SURPRISED TO SEE US, RAVE MASTER?

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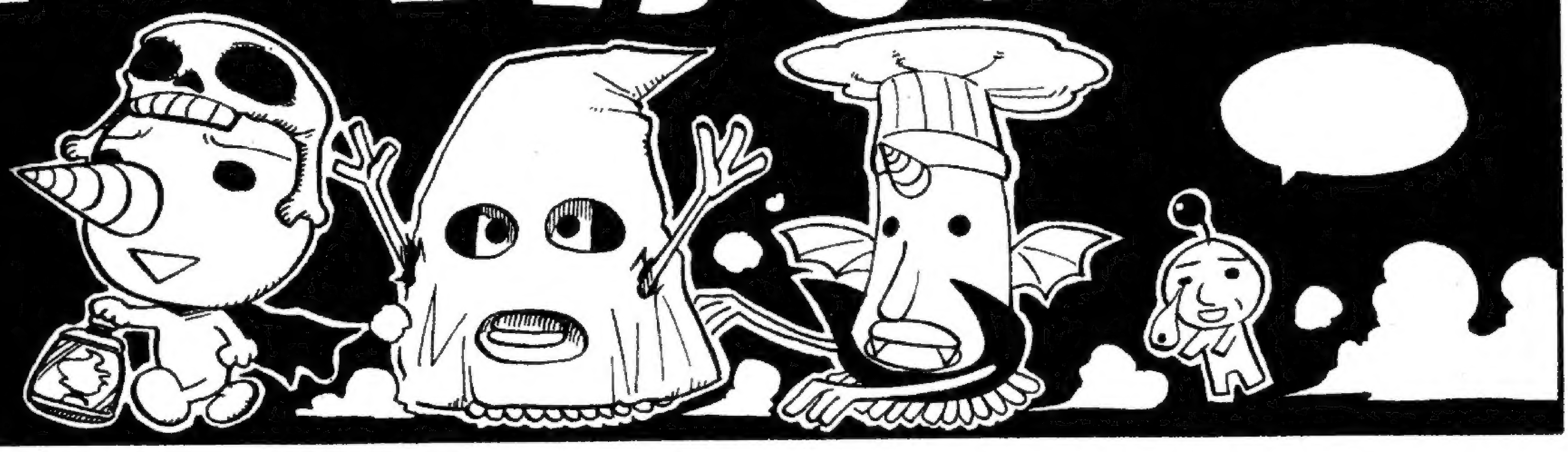
PLUE	The **Rave Bearer,** Plue is the faithful companion to the Rave Master. In addition to being Haru's guide, Plue also has powers of his own. When he's not getting Haru into or out of trouble, Plue can be found enjoying a sucker, his favorite treat.
THE ORACION SIX	Demon Card's six generals. Haru defeated **Shuda** after finding the Rave of Wisdom. The other five generals were presumed dead after King destroyed Demon Card Headquarters.

RAVE 15 CONTENTS



RAVE:115 ⊕ THE POWER OF LIGHT AND DARK ▶▶ 7
RAVE:116 ⊕ THE SECRET LIVES OF WOLVES ▶▶ 28
RAVE:117 ⊕ BECAUSE WE'RE A TEAM ▶▶ 49
RAVE:118 ⊕ THAT'S CRUEL, POYO!! ▶▶ 69
RAVE:119 ⊕ MERMAID IN LOVE ▶▶ 89
RAVE:120 ⊕ DARKNESS FALLS ▶▶ 109
RAVE:121 ⊕ DARKNESS RISING ▶▶ 129
RAVE:122 ⊕ OUR HOPE, EXTINGUISHED ▶▶ 150

MANGA EXTRA
RAVE0077 ▶▶ 178

RAVE MASTER™
KEEP OUT
BAR
CAR
Mc
C-4212
CA

RAVE:115 ✚ THE POWER OF LIGHT AND DARK

THAT'S HIM. THE INFAMOUS COOKIE CRUSHER.
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! HE WAS EXECUTED FIFTEEN YEARS AGO! HE SHOULD BE DEAD!
YO!!
THAT'S RIGHT. I DID DIE. IN FACT, I'M STILL DEAD.
kecha kecha
WHAT?!
HOW CAN THAT BE?
I'VE DORYU TO THANK FOR THAT.
DORYU?
YO... WHAT DO YA KNOW ABOUT NECROMANCY?

RESURRECTION MAGIC...
RESURRECTION?
HIGH-LEVEL BLACK MAGIC USED TO RETURN A DEAD PERSON'S SOUL TO HIS BODY.
SO, YOU'RE SAYING DORYU COULDA USED THIS MAGIC?
A-AND BROUGHT COOKIE BACK TO LIFE?!
NOT QUITE. NECROMANCY AIN'T ABOUT RESTORING LIFE-- IT'S ABOUT CONTROLLING THE DEAD.
kecha kecha
DORYU ALWAYS SAID I WAS TOO... MOODY. I THINK HE LIKES ME BETTER AS A ZOMBIE.
New
Doryu Ghost Squad
ZOMBIE COOKIE
SUCH HERETICAL MAGIC! IT'S A SLAP IN THE FACE TO THE VERY LAWS OF NATURE!
I NEVER IMAGINED DORYU COULD WIELD SUCH POWERFUL DARK MAGIC...
DEFEATING HIM WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN I IMAGINED!
NOW, CALM DOWN, PRINCESS. I AIN'T ABOUT TO LET YOU GO SQUISHIN' DORYU. Y'SEE, IF THE NECROMANCER DIES, I GO BYE-BYE.
BUT WHAT AM I WORRYING ABOUT? THERE'S NO WAY DORYU'D LOSE TO PUNKS LIKE YOU!
龍

HE'S AS BAD AS THEY COME.
HE EVEN USES FORBIDDEN BLACK MAGIC.
FORBIDDEN BLACK MAGIC? BUT HOW?!
SEEIN' AS YER ABOUT TO DIE, I DON'T SEE HOW THAT CONCERNS YOU.
WE FIGHT WITH THE POWER OF RAVE!
WE CAN OVERCOME ANY DARKNESS!
WELL, AIN'T YOU SPECIAL?
SO, WE GONNA START THIS THING, OR WHAT?
ばっ
ガシャ
INDEED. WE CANNOT GO FORWARD WITHOUT DEFEATING HIM.
LET'S RUMBLE.

CRUSHER KNUCKLE!!
BARE-HANDED, IS IT? THEN I AM YOUR OPPONENT!
MASTER LET! NO!!
DON'T LET HIM TOUCH YOU!!
!!
THAT'S RIGHT!
SPRING

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! NO ONE CAN BE THAT STRONG!
HE'S SO STRONG!!
YOU SAID IT! ANYTHING I TOUCH TURNS TO RUBBLE! WHETHER IT'S A PERSON OR THING, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE...
パラ…
パラ…
IT ALL EQUALS A ONE-HIT-KILL!
EW.
YOU ARE RIGHT. THAT IS NOT HIS STRENGTH--IT'S A DARK BRING. IT PULVERIZES ANYTHING HE TOUCHES.
IT TOOK ME TWENTY-FIVE YEARS TO MASTER THE ALL CRUSH DB. SO YEAH--I'M THAT GOOD!
TEN YEARS IN LIFE, FIFTEEN AS A ZOMBIE.
BUT HOW DO YOU ATTACK SOMEONE YOU CAN'T TOUCH?!
SORRY, BUD. YOU TOUCH ME, THE EFFECT'S THE SAME--CRUMBLE TIME!
kecha
kecha
THEN ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS HIT HIM BEFORE HE CAN HIT ME.

GOOD QUESTION.
Wait a second... who the heck are you?!
PLEASE BE MINDFUL, MR. UNI.
AH, RIGHT. I MIGHT BE CONFUSED WITH PLUE.
PUUN
I SEE... SO HAND-TO-HAND IS OUT.
EHH?!
AND I CAN'T HIT HIM WITH THE TEN POWERS OR IT'LL SHATTER.
THAT'S THE WAY THAT PARTICULAR COOKIE CRUMBLES. HEH HEH...
SO WHAT?! HE'S INVINCIBLE?!
IT APPEARS SO. THE INVINCIBLE MURDERER, COOKIE CRUSHER...THE BOOGEYMAN PARENTS TELL THEIR KIDS ABOUT TO FRIGHTEN THEM INTO BEHAVING.
I thought my parents made him up!
YEP. MY LEGEND'LL LAST FOREVER.
kecha kecha
WHAT? YOU SCARED?
NAH. I'M NOT GIVING UP YET.

BLUE CRIMSON!!
ザ
ICE SIDE!!
ビキ
I SEE! A LONG-RANGE ATTACK!!
PUUN!!
....
A COLD ATTACK, HUH? LEST YOU FORGET, BUD, YOU'RE DEALIN' WITH A FRICKIN' ZOMBIE, HERE!
ヒョオオオ
IT HAD NO EFFECT!!
OKAY... HOW ABOUT...

FIRE SIDE!!
FIRE, EH? ALLOW ME TO CHIP IN.
FIRE DRAGON FLARE!!
THAT DID IT FOR SURE!!

GRAAAAAH!!
!!
NO!!
HARU!! MOVE!!
COOOKIE KICK!!
UGH!!
I HAVE NO CHOICE! MY PRECIOUS FRYING PAN IS OUR ONLY HOPE!

TAKE THIS!!
!!!
HA!! MELEE OR MISSILE, ANYTHING THAT HITS ME CRUMBLES!!
NOT EVEN BULLETS WOULD WORK!!
NOW... STAND UP AND DIE LIKE A MAN.
huff
HARU!! RUN!!

ス''''
!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU'LL GET HIT IF YOU JUST STAND THERE!!
GIVIN' UP, HUH?
kecha kecha
kecha
THEN I'LL SMASH YOU TO PIECES RIGHT NOW!!
ばッ
THE SWORD?! HA!! I ALREADY TOLD YOU!! I'LL SMASH IT TO BITS!

GOOD THINKING! HE CAN'T BLOCK THAT ATTACK!!
VACUUM BLADE TECHNIQUE...
MEL FORCE!!
...MEGA GUST!!
HMPH...
IS THERE A **DRAFT** IN HERE?
TRUE... BUT HE STILL DIDN'T INFLICT ANY DAMAGE.
HARU BLEW HIM AWAY!!
GWAH!!

!!
HE DIDN'T ...?!
WHATEVER YOU TOUCH...
...IS SMASHED TO BITS, RIGHT?
AW, CRAP...
GWAAAAH!!

SEE YA!!
NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!
YAY!! YOU GOT HIM!!
WELL DONE.
NOW THAT'S THE WAY THE COOKIE CRUMBLES.
Dammmmn yoooou oooooo!!

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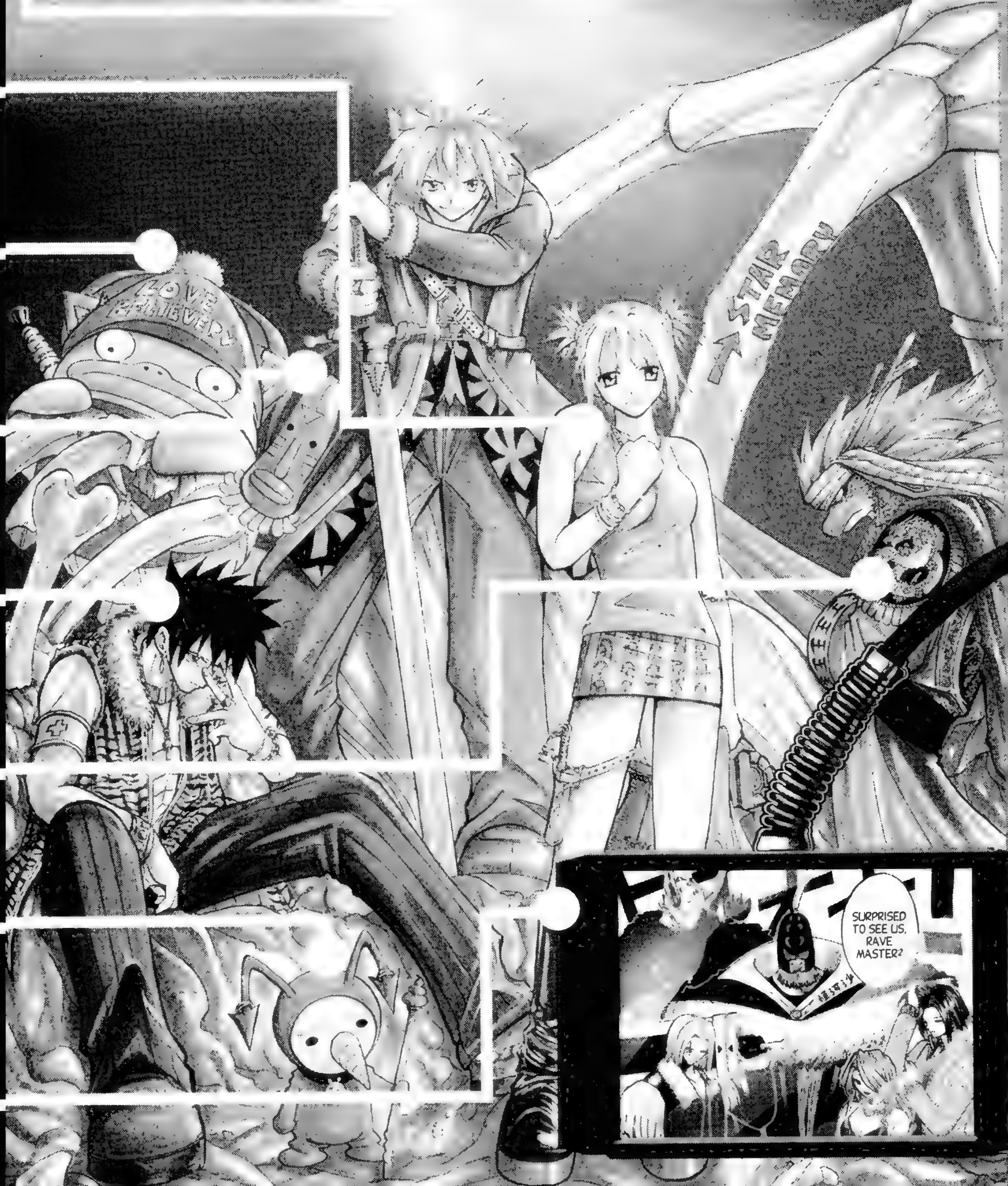
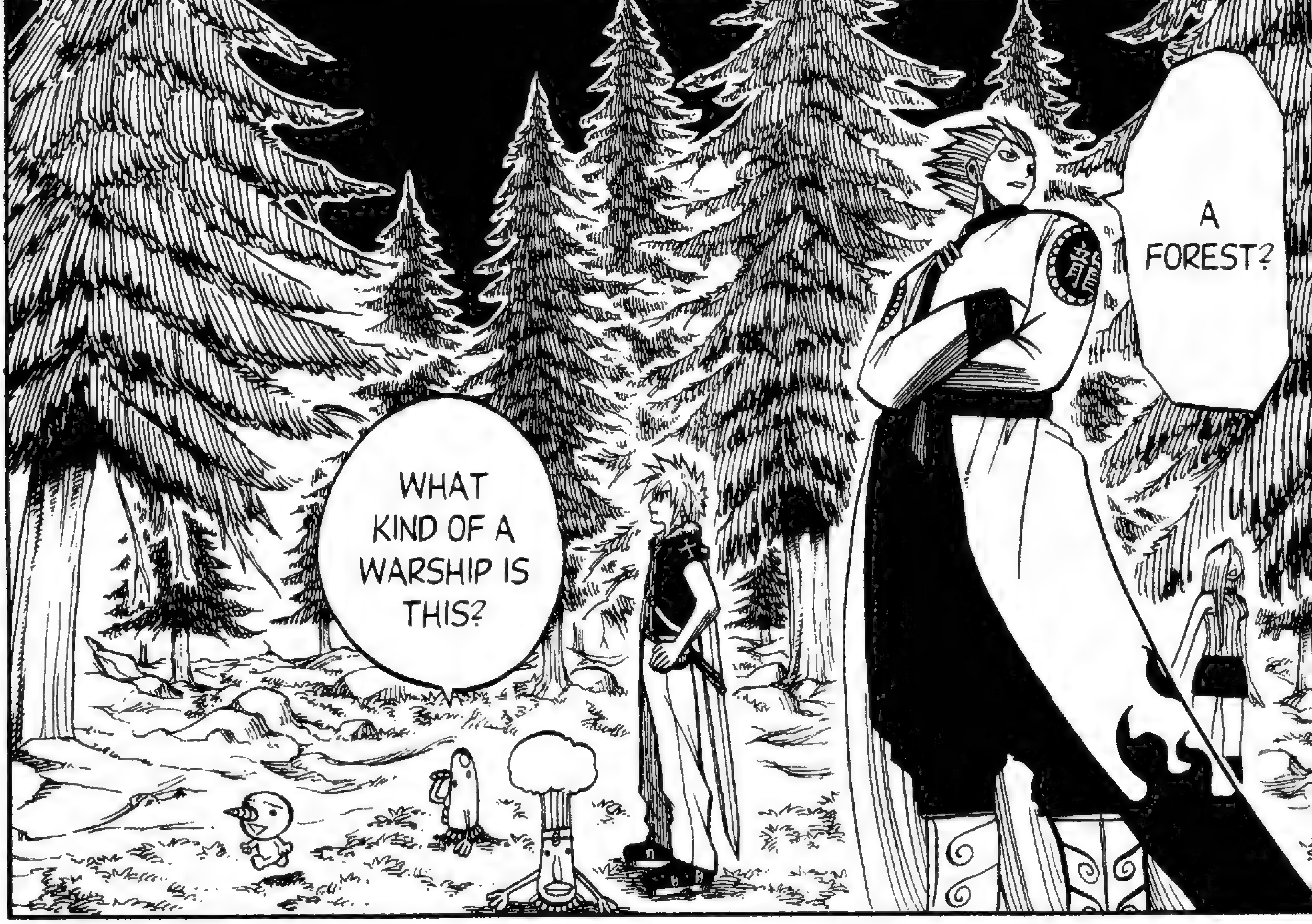
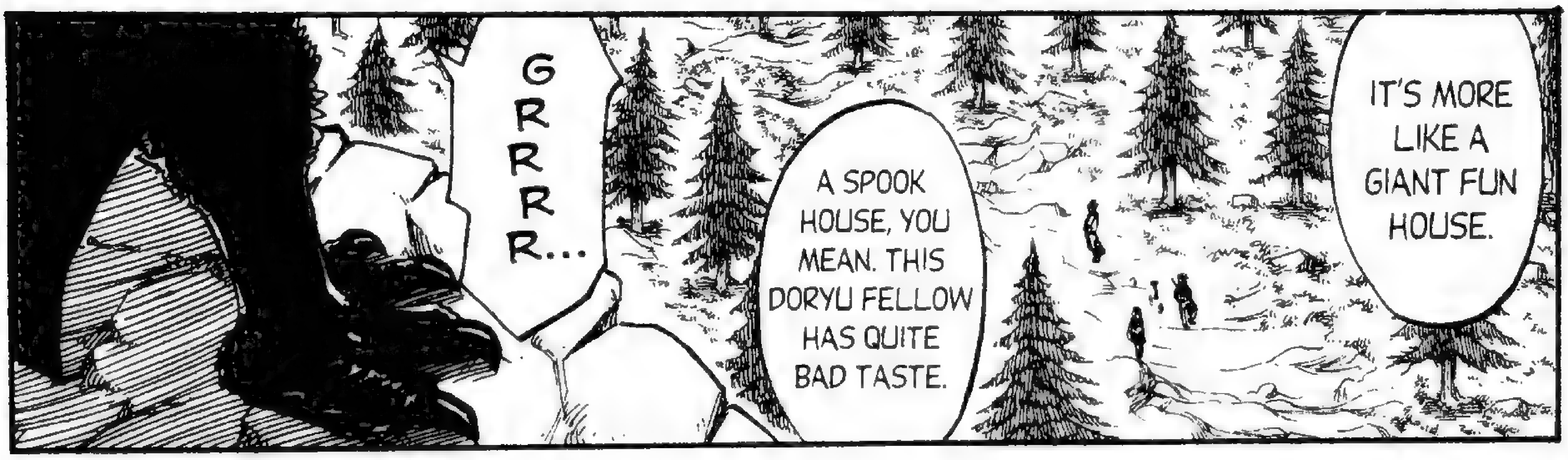
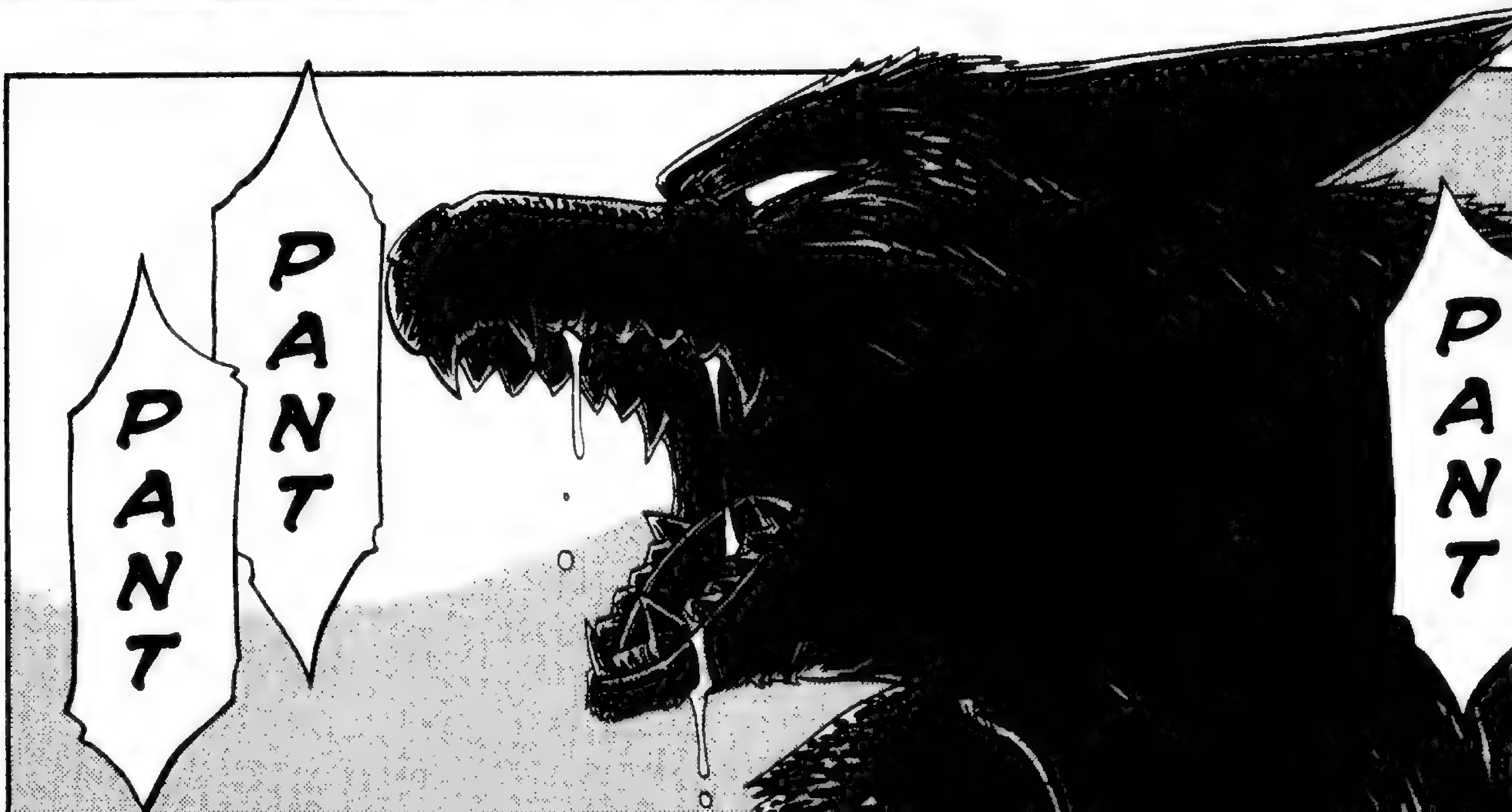

LOVE BELIEVERS
STAR MEMORY
SURPRISED TO SEE US, RAVE MASTER?

DORYU'S POWERFUL BLACK MAGIC STEMS FROM **DARKNESS**. IT IS EXTREMELY VULNERABLE TO THE POWER OF **LIGHT**, ITS POLAR OPPOSITE.
IT IS THE GREAT BALANCE.
ZOMBIES CAN ONLY LIVE IN DARKNESS. SUNLIGHT DESTROYS THEM.
I SEE.
I GET IT!! THAT'S GREAT, CELIA!!
NOW WE KNOW DORYU'S WEAK POINT FOR WHEN WE FIGHT HIM!!
THAT'S WHY DORYU CREATED THIS PLACE. IT'S A WORLD OF DARKNESS DEVOID OF ALL THINGS LIGHT-- INCLUDING SUNLIGHT.
THAT'S NOT ALL...
JUST AS DORYU'S MAGIC STEMS FROM DARKNESS, **YOUR** POWER HAS AN AFFINITY TO **LIGHT**, HARU.
SO DORYU'S BLACK MAGIC IS **YOUR** WEAK POINT.

ANYWAY, YOU MUST KEEP THAT IN MIND WHEN YOU FIGHT DORYU.
AW, SNAP ...
....
LIGHT AND DARK AFFINITY, HUH?
LET US GO. WHEN THE SUN SETS, THEY WILL HAVE THE ADVANTAGE.
RIGHT.
YEAH.


A FOREST?
WHAT KIND OF A WARSHIP IS THIS?


IT'S MORE LIKE A GIANT FUN HOUSE.
A SPOOK HOUSE, YOU MEAN. THIS DORYU FELLOW HAS QUITE BAD TASTE.
GRRRR...


PANT
PANT
PANT

HISTORY OF RAVE

Latest Version

0000
- Jan 1, New Calendar begins
- Resha born

0015
- Rave & DB are created, Kingdom Wars begin
- Shiba appointed Rave Master
- Sept 9, Resha's death

0016
- Overdrive occurs, 1/10th of the world destroyed

- Rave scattered
- Plue vanishes

0021
- Sept 9, Gale Glory and Gale Raregroove (King) born

0041
- Sept 9, Gale & King form Demon Card

- Before the end of 0041, Gale Glory secedes from DC and goes to Garage

0050
- August 7, Haru born on Garage Island
- Also August 7, Lucia born

0051
- Gale leaves Garage

0056
- Demon Card wiped out by the Empire
- Sakura, Haru's mother, dies

- King rebuilds Demon Card
- Gale spends 10 years in the desert

0060
- Nakajima arrives at Haru's house

0065
- Plue and Griff battle the Pudding Army

0066
- Haru hooks Plue at Garage Island
- Haru declared second Rave Master

0066.9.9
- Demon Card HQ destroyed
- Gale Glory and King die

0067
- Haru, now 17, arrives at Southernberg in search of the fourth Rave stone

0067.6
- DC restored, Lucia named 2nd King

0077
- Nakajima arrives at Levin's house

RAVE MASTER

RAVE:116 ✠
THE SECRET LIVES OF WOLVES

HARU, LOOK! THE MOON'S OUT!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A WARSHIP. HOW CAN THE MOON BE OUT?
IT'S AN ILLUSION--ALBEIT A RATHER **OMINOUS** ONE.
JEEZ... THIS PLACE'S MAKING ME HUNGRY.
SHH... **QUIET**.
RUSTLE
ザワ…
WHAT IS IT?!
I SENSE... A **MONSTER**.
オオオオ
EH?!
IT'S COMING!

ABOVE US!!
ズガガガガ

GRRRR...
WERE-WOLF!!
GRAAH!
WAIT! I'VE SEEN THE GUY BEFORE HE WAS ONE OF THE THUG WE RAN INTO ON MR. RUBY'S CASINO!
PUUN!!
FIRST A ZOMBIE, NOW A WERE-WOLF...
OKAY. HE'S MINE.
HARU, WAIT!
HUH?

YOUR OPPONENT IS NOT ALONE!!
カ
ア
ア
ァ
ァ
A WEREWOLF PACK!!
オオオ
オ
THERE'S SO MANY OF THEM!
NO MATTER-- I'VE STILL GOT TO FIGHT THEM!

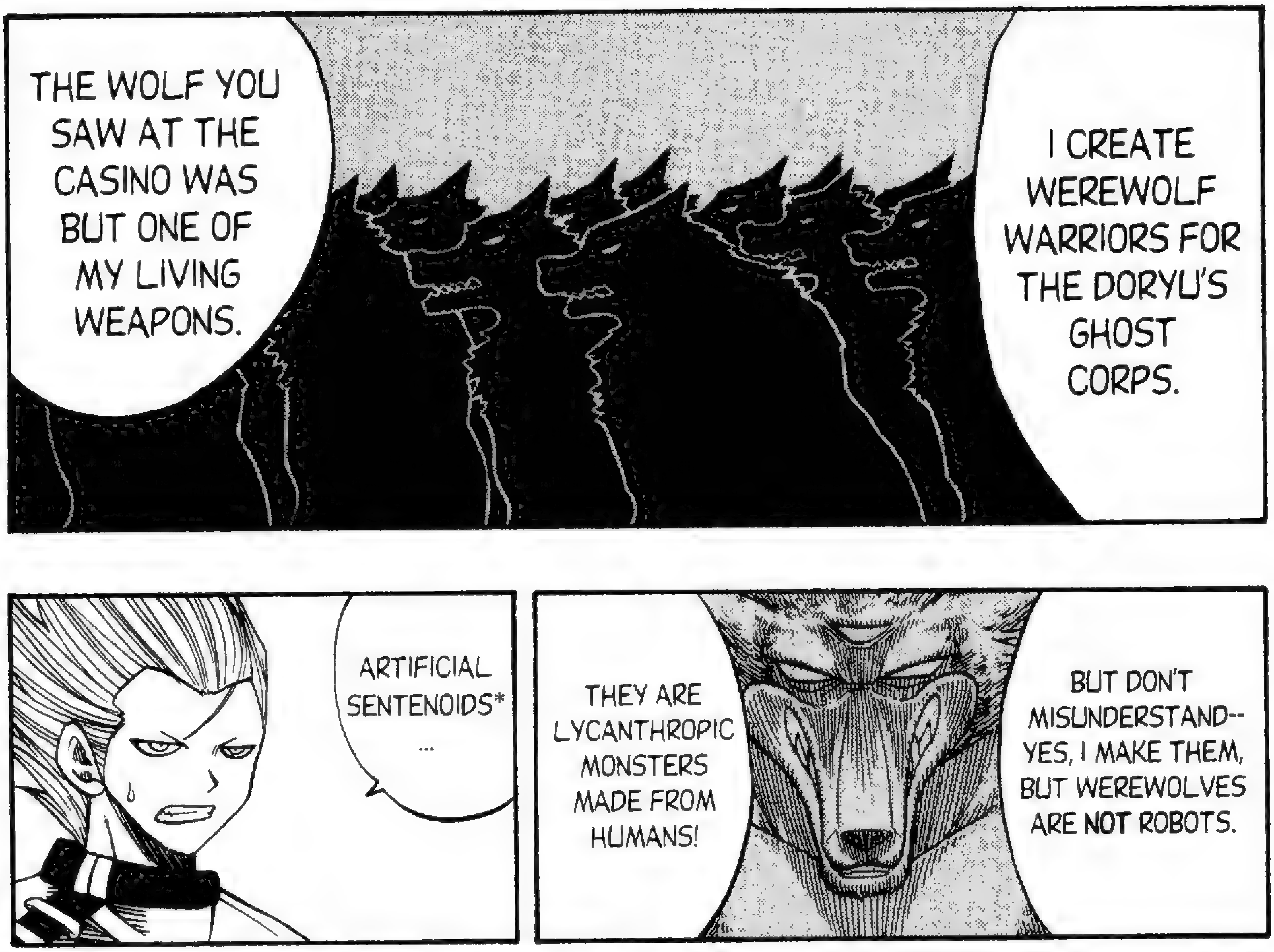
LET'S DO IT, LET!!
INDEED.
EXPLOSION!!
EEEEK!!
PUUN
GRRR?

ドゴォォォ
HYAAAH!!
EARTH DRAGON DUST!!
ドガガガガ
ドカ
ドザ
バタ
LIKE SWAT-TING FLIES...!

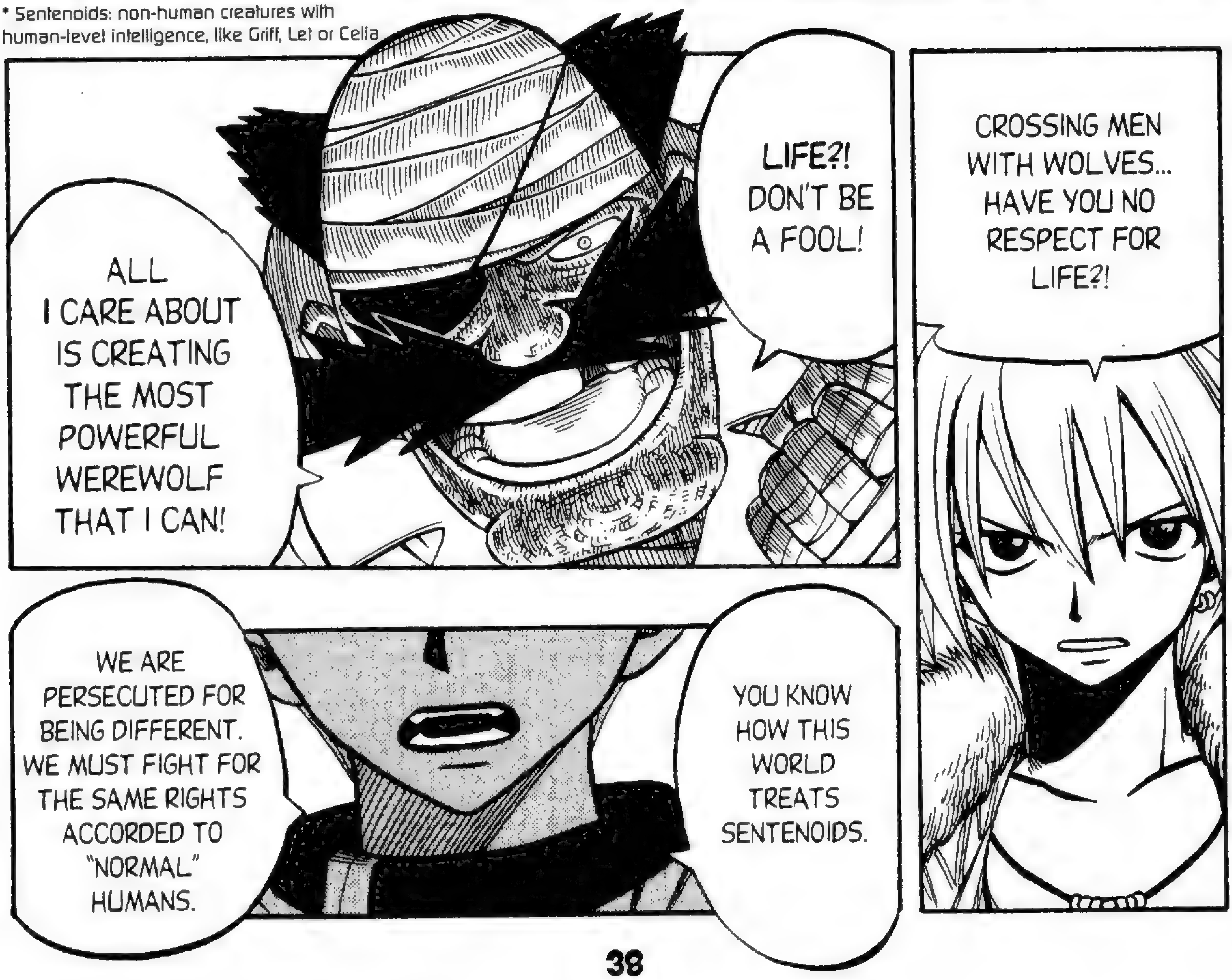
THAT'S THE LAST ONE!!
ドゴォォ!!
GWOOOO...
PHEW...
WE DID IT!
WAIT. SOMETHING IS STILL HERE.
EHH?!
I'm scared!
GLOMRP
?!
ドッガァ

GAAAAAH!!
320
A BLACK WOLF?!
HEY! WATCH IT, YOU!
ズズ…
ズズ…
I'M IN CHARGE HERE!
ズズ…
YANK
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!

GROOAARR!!
NICE LUNGS...
I SEE. THE STAR PERFORMER HAS ARRIVED.
THAT'S RIGHT!
SLIDE
IT'S A PERSON!!
SPEAK UP! WHO ARE YOU?!
HEH HA! AFTER 115 YEARS OF INTENSE FIELD WORK, I KNOW MORE ABOUT WOLVES THAN ANYONE ELSE ON THE PLANET!
YOU CAN CALL ME MUMMY, THE WOLF DOCTOR!
Doryu Ghost Squad Wolf Doctor MUMMY
GRAAH!!
DOWN, WOLF!! DOWN!!
THE PLATOON OF WEREWOLVES YOU DEFEATED WERE NOTHING BUT THE BYPRODUCTS OF MY RESEARCH.
WHAT?!
YOU MADE THEM?!
I'LL EXPLAIN IT IN TERMS EVEN YOUR FEEBLE MINDS CAN UNDERSTAND...


I CREATE WEREWOLF WARRIORS FOR THE DORYU'S GHOST CORPS.
THE WOLF YOU SAW AT THE CASINO WAS BUT ONE OF MY LIVING WEAPONS.
BUT DON'T MISUNDERSTAND-- YES, I MAKE THEM, BUT WEREWOLVES ARE **NOT** ROBOTS.
THEY ARE LYCANTHROPIC MONSTERS MADE FROM HUMANS!
ARTIFICIAL SENTENOIDS* ...

* Sentenoids: non-human creatures with human-level intelligence, like Griff, Let or Celia


CROSSING MEN WITH WOLVES... HAVE YOU NO RESPECT FOR LIFE?!
LIFE?! DON'T BE A FOOL!
ALL I CARE ABOUT IS CREATING THE MOST POWERFUL WEREWOLF THAT I CAN!
YOU KNOW HOW THIS WORLD TREATS SENTENOIDS.
WE ARE PERSECUTED FOR BEING DIFFERENT. WE MUST FIGHT FOR THE SAME RIGHTS ACCORDED TO "NORMAL" HUMANS.

THIS IS BLASPHEMY AGAINST ALL SENTENOIDS.
SAVE YOUR LECTURE, BOY. **YOU'RE** THE ONE WHO'S ABOUT TO BE SCHOOLED!
GRRR...
THANKS TO LORD DORYU'S EXQUISITE GIFT, I'VE FINALLY CREATED MY MASTERPIECE...
GO FORTH, MY MAGNIFICENT PET!!
SHOW ME... SHOW **THEM** ALL...YOUR **MIGHT**!!
...WOLF VERSION 320!!
WOLF
Version 320

ズギャア
FWIP
FWAP
BE CAREFUL! HE'S NOTHING LIKE THE EARLIER WEREWOLVES!
NOW IT'S MY TURN!

EXPLOSION!!
EXPLOSION
HUH?!
UWAH!!
HARU!!
HE IS A MONSTER...

THATTA BOY, WOLF! PULVERIZE THEM!
UGAAAAAH!!
DANG...! HE'S GOIN' BERSERK!

HE'S SO FAST!!
SUCH SPEED AND POWER...HE'S A MUCH GREATER FOE THAN I ANTICIPATED...
THIS ISN'T GOOD. HE HAS THEM ON THE DEFENSIVE. THEY HAVEN'T EVEN HAD A CHANCE TO ATTACK.
PUUN!!
AW, CRAP!
RIP
MY BALANCE--
!!

ピタッ
FREEZE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, WOLF?!
WHY AREN'T YOU ATTACKING?!
......
HE STOPPED MOVING?
THAT'S MASTER MUSICA'S SILVER!!
I SEE... OF COURSE! ACCORDING TO LEGEND, WEREWOLVES ARE VULNERABLE TO SILVER!
スッ

GRRRR...
......
OY! STUPID WOLF! IS THIS ANY TIME TO SLACK OFF?!
IF MASTER MUSICA WERE HERE, HE COULD EASILY DEFEAT THIS GUY!
YOU'RE INVINCIBLE, YOU DUMB MUTT! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! EAT THE BRAT!!
GRAAAAAAAAR!!
HARU!!
LOOK OUT!!

ブチィィィ
WHAT'S HARU DOING?!
よろっ
たっ
たっ
た

I'M...I'M OKAY.
ポタ
ポタ
ポタ
IT'LL BE... ALL RIGHT...
ヨロ...
HERE.
YOU WANT THIS, DON'T YOU?
THIS SILVER...
...IT'S NOT YOUR WEAK SPOT AT ALL.
IT BELONGS TO YOU...
...DOESN'T IT...

...MUSICA?
PANT
PANT
PANT

RAVE:117 ✚ BECAUSE WE'RE A TEAM!

MUSICA...
RAARGH?!
MUSICA?!
M-MUSICA?!
TH-THAT WOLF IS MASTER MUSICA?!
PUUUN!!
HEH HEH HEH!
THAT'S RIGHT!! AND WHAT OF IT?!
HE'S NOTHING BUT A MINDLESS WEREWOLF, NOW!!

IT CAN'T BE! THAT'S **REALLY** MUSICA?!
BUT, HARU... HOW DID YOU KNOW...?
BECAUSE... WE'RE **FRIENDS.**
I COULD JUST TELL... FROM HIS REACTION WHEN HE SAW...THE SILVER...
I-I KNOW... BE-BECAUSE WE'RE F-FRIENDS...
がくっ
ズシュ

FRIENDSHIP?! THERE'S NO SUCH CAPABILITY LEFT IN HIM ANYMORE!
DAMN. HARU TOOK EVEN MORE DAMAGE THAN I THOUGHT.
MUSICA...
GO, WOLF!!
HURRY UP AND FINISH THEM OFF!!
GRRRRR...
GRRRR...
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! I'M YOUR MASTER! I ORDER YOU TO KILL HIM!!

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!! YOU *ARE* MUSICA!!
DON'T YOU REMEMBER YOUR MISSION?! YOUR FRIENDS?! YOU HAVE TO HOLD ON TO WHO YOU ARE!!
GRRR?
YOU DON'T **HAVE** ANY FRIENDS! YOU'RE A **MONSTER!** JUST THE FINAL PRODUCT OF MY YEARS OF RESEARCH!
YOU'RE THE MIGHTIEST WEREWOLF EVER CREATED! NOW, DESTROY HIM!
GAAAAAH!!
MUSICA!!
NOOO!!
ROOOWR!!
320

AAAARGH?!!
ズギャァァ
SPATTER
GAAH!!
GRAAH!!
ズギャ
ビッ
ARRROOOO?!!
ビッ!!
ビギャァ!!
RIP
SPLURT
H... HEY...
SLASH
SLASH

ガッ
STOP IT!!
STOP!!
GAAUUU?!!
ブッ
UGH!
NO, YOU IDIOT! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
WOLF! WHAT'S WRONG?!
LET! YOU HAVE TO STOP HIM!
グシャ
ブチィ
ドカ
I CANNOT.
ザクッ
ザクッ
ビキィ
HE WARS WITH HIMSELF NOW.
ガガガ
MUSICA!!

PANT
PANT
PANT
SPLAT
DRIP
SPLAT
DRIP
GYAAH!!
ビッ!
ズドッ!
MUSICA!!
HE'S LOST SO MUCH BLOOD!
MUSICA! HANG IN THERE!

NO...IT CAN'T BE...M-MY MASTERPIECE...
...SELF-DESTRUCTED!
I'LL SAVE YOU, DUDE!
HERE! I'VE STILL GOT THIS MEDICINE!
GLUB
GLUB
IT'S TOO LATE! HE'S GIVEN UP THE GHOST!
MEDICINE CAN'T HEAL WOUNDS LIKE THOSE ANYWAY!
DRINK!
GLUB
GLUB
DRINK, DAMMIT!!
ゴポ
ゴポ
ゴポ
ゴポ
MUSICA!!
DON'T YOU DIE!!
DO *NOT* DIE ON ME, MAN!

ALL FAILED EXPERIMENTS DESERVE TO DIE LIKE TRASH!
TWITCH
HEH HEH HEH... BETTER HE DOES DIE.
WHY YOU...
YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE! I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU ALL MYSELF!
どろーーん
SOMETHING ALWAYS HAS TO GET IN THE WAY OF MY RESEARCH!
ばっ
MY GREATNESS IS NEVER APPRECIATED!

EEEK!!
YOU FORCED ME TO USE THIS.
NOW YOU'LL ALL BE MY GUINEA PIGS UNTIL YOU DIE!
HIS BODY IS... DISSOLVING.
HE'S...
WITNESS THE POWER OF THE REVERSAL DARK BRING BONE KNIGHT!!
...SACRIFICING HIS FLESH TO THE DARKNESS!
REVERSAL DB?! WHAT KIND OF DARK BRING IS THAT?!
IT GRANTS THE POWER OF TRANSFORMATION. OF COURSE, I CAN NEVER RETURN MY BODY TO WHAT IT WAS...
WITH IT I CAN REPLACE MY CURRENT BODY WITH ONE OF LIVING BONE!
WHAT THE HECK?!

...BUT THEN AGAIN, WHY WOULD I WANT TO?!
UGH!
NOT GOOD.
はッ
RENT GAIN!!
WHAT?!
GAH!!
KYAAH!!
PUUN!!
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE A SHOCKWAVE BURN THE VERY MARROW OF YOUR BONES?!

DAMN! I'M PARALYZED!
MY WHOLE BODY HURTS!
UNGH!!
YOU TOOK MY GRAND EXPERIMENT AWAY FROM ME!
YOU OWE IT TO ME TO DIE AS MY NEW GUINEA PIGS!
PEOPLE DON'T EXIST JUST FOR YOUR EXPERIMENTS!
YOU CAN'T TREAT LIFE LIKE IT'S SOME TOY!
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, BRAT! THAT EXPERIMENT WAS **MY LIFE**, AND YOU TOOK IT AWAY FROM ME!
SO NOW-- I TAKE **YOURS**!

!!
EH?!
!
NO!!
IT CAN'T BE!!

SORRY TO BUTT IN...BUT I HAD A BONE TO PICK WITH HIM.
MUSICA!!
MUSICA!!
IMPOSSIBLE!! HOW DID YOU UNDO THE CURSE?!
...WAS ALICE'S CUSTOM ELIXIR!
I SEE... THE CUSTOM ELIXIR DOESN'T JUST HEAL PHYSICAL WOUNDS, BUT IT RETURNS A PERSON TO HIS OR HER NATURAL STATE.
ELIXIR custom
THE MEDICINE THAT HARU GAVE HIM...

ALICE?! THAT MEDICINE'S FROM ALICE?!
STUPID ALICE! HE WAS ALWAYS ONE STEP AHEAD OF ME IN SCHOOL!!
Beat tHat!
Munya!
105
100
HE GOT ME AGAIN!!
NO!!
SMASH
SORRY...
...GUYS...
...FOR ALL THE TROUBLE.
I TRIED TO SAVE ELIE...
...BUT I COULDN'T STOP DORYU. I THOUGHT HE'D KILLED ME.
BUT... I WAS ONLY TRAPPED IN THE DARKNESS.
THAT'S DORYU'S POWER-- THE POWER TO PULL THINGS INTO THE DARK.
WHEN I CAME TO, I WAS THAT... THING.
I COULD BARELY REMEMBER WHO I WAS.

I'M PATHETIC.
I WAS TOO WEAK TO CONTROL MYSELF!
AND EVERYONE GOT HURT BECAUSE OF IT!
WITH MY OWN HANDS I... I TRIED TO KILL YOU.
I'M...
...A FAILURE OF A TEAM-MATE.
ガ
STUPID JERK!!

ド
FAILURE OF A TEAMMATE?!
YEAH, SURE-- YOU GAVE US QUITE A BEATING...
...BUT ALL THE BEATINGS IN THE WORLD **WOULDN'T HURT** AS BAD AS THINKING YOU WERE **DEAD!**
JUST KNOWING YOU'RE ALIVE TAKES THE PAIN AWAY FROM THESE WOUNDS!!
ガスガス
ガス
ガスガス
HEY, CUT THAT OUT!
ガシ
I GET IT, ALREADY!
Grin

SORRY... AND THANKS.
DON'T MENTION IT! WE'RE A TEAM, RIGHT?
ガシ
I'M SO HAPPY...
IT'S LOVE, ISN'T IT?
LIKE HELL IT IS!
ポカ
ZONK!!
HEY! THAT HURT! WHY'D YA HIT ME?!
PAYBACK FOR EARLIER.
WHY YOU--!!
OH, YOU WANT SOME MORE?!
ポカ
ポカ
ポカ
......
NOT THIS AGAIN...
IT REALLY MUST BE LOVE!
Haru's mine, though!
じーーん
NO... IT'S NOT LOVE. IT'S FRIENDSHIP.

RAVE MASTER™
酒

RAVE:118 ✚ THAT'S CRUEL, POYO!!

む、くっ
?
It's Dark, Poyo.
SCARY DARK, POYO!!
WHERE AM I, POYO?!
ちり～ん
!
YOU'RE IN PRISON, MASTER RUBY.
LILITH!!

......
LiLitH's come to get me, POYO!
どだ どだ どだ どだ
Eeek!! OH no, POYO!
!
YOU'RE SO CRUEL, MASTER RUBY.
DON'T KILL ME, POYO!!
ぺた
GO AWAY, POYO!!
EH ?!
AND AFTER I CAME ALL THIS WAY TO SAVE YOU...

DORYU DID SUCH TERRIBLE THINGS TO YOU, MASTER RUBY.
I NEVER REALIZED HE WAS SO...EVIL.
REALLY, POYO?
I'M ON **YOUR SIDE**, MASTER RUBY.
So get me out of here right now, Poyo!
SHH! QUIET! WE'LL BE SPOTTED IF WE GO NOW.
DORYU'S A POWERFUL ENEMY. WE MUST BE PRUDENT.
LILITH, YOU REALLY **ARE** A GOOD GIRL, POYO!
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T TRUST YOU SOONER, POYO!
I HAVE ANOTHER REASON FOR COMING HERE, AS WELL...
YOUR YOUNG LADY FRIEND'S LIFE IS IN DANGER.
YOU MEAN ELIE, POYO?!
YES. SHE'S LOCKED IN ANOTHER CELL.
SOON, DORYU WILL **KILL** HER.

ピラ
A CONTRACT
BUT THERE'S STILL TIME! PLEASE, HURRY! SIGN THIS CONTRACT!
CONTRACT?
!
ポヨーー!
I-I CAN'T, POYO!! IF I SIGN THIS, DORYU WILL HAVE MY ENTIRE FORTUNE, POYO!!
I'M SORRY... BUT I'M AFRAID THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE HER LIFE.
DORYU SAID THAT IF YOU SIGN OVER YOUR MONEY, HE WILL SPARE THE GIRL'S LIFE.
ブル ブル ブル
AND ONCE BOTH OF YOU ARE SAFE, I'LL CREATE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO ESCAPE.

B-BUT... I CAN'T GIVE MONEY TO **BAD PEOPLE.**
I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER...
...BUT IT'S EITHER MONEY, OR YOUR FRIEND'S LIFE--WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU?
MASTER RUBY, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME! IF YOU DON'T SIGN NOW, SHE'LL **DIE!**
A CONTRACT
......
MY DADDY WORKED HIS WHOLE LIFE FOR THAT MONEY, POYO.
BUT THAT DIDN'T MEAN MY DADDY WAS A MISER, POYO. HE WAS FOLLOWING HIS DREAM.
AND THAT DREAM WAS TO RUN THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE CASINO, POYO.
A CONTRACT

WHEN HE FINALLY SUCCEEDED, HE BECAME RICH, POYO.
AND BECAUSE HE WAS RICH, HE STARTED ATTRACTING ALL SORTS OF **BAD PEOPLE**, POYO.
THEY SAID, "WORKING WITH US WILL BE MORE PROFITABLE THAN YOUR CASINO," POYO.
BUT DADDY WOULDN'T HAVE ANY OF IT, POYO.
HE TURNED DOWN EVERY BAD PERSON'S OFFER, POYO.
BECAUSE, FOR DADDY, IT WAS NEVER ABOUT THE MONEY, POYO.
ALL HE WANTED WAS TO BUILD HIS CASINO, POYO.
THE WORLD'S BIGGEST CASINO WAS THE BEST GIFT A DADDY COULD GIVE, POYO. THAT'S WHY I WAS ABLE TO COLLECT RARE THINGS, POYO.
ぐもおおお
BUT I'D GIVE IT ALL UP IF IT WOULD BRING MY DADDY BACK, POYO!
MASTER RUBY ...
ポ
!
I'M SORRY, DADDY, POYO.
onsent to,
RUBY
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
I'M WRECKING YOUR DREAM, POYO.
BUT IF GIVING UP THIS MONEY CAN SAVE A LIFE... FORGIVE ME, POYO.
LILITH, WILL THAT DO IT, POYO?
YES...

AND NOW, I'M AFRAID...
...YOU'RE OF NO MORE USE TO US!
EH?!
Y...Y...
...YOU MEAN...
YES... NOW YOUR ENTIRE FORTUNE BELONGS TO THE DORYU GHOST SQUAD!
YOU REALLY ARE DENSE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FELL FOR A TRANSPARENT PLOY LIKE THAT!
POYO!

GIVE THAT BACK, POYO!
THAT'S NOT FAIR, POYO!!
YOU TRICKED ME, POYO!!
SAVE IT FOR SOMEONE WHO CARES... "POYO."
EEP!!
YOU'RE HEARTLESS, POYO! I TRUSTED YOU, POYO!
I THOUGHT I WAS SACRIFICING DADDY'S DREAM TO SAVE ELIE...
YOU THOUGHT WRONG.
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS, POYO!!
!!
WHAT?! THE CELL DOOR...
WHO'S THERE?!
AAH!!

GUYS!! YOU'RE HERE!!
EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT NOW, RUBY.

RAVE MASTER?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
SAY-- I REMEMBER YOU FROM WHEN I WAS A WOLF.
TAP TAP
YOU GOT A LOT TO ANSWER FOR, LADY.
I'm saved, Poyo!! I was so scared, Poyo!!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. EVERYONE'S HERE NOW.
PUUN!!
IS THIS THING FOOD? I'M HUNGRY!
YOU CANNOT WIN. YOU'RE OUT-NUMBERED.
SURRENDER NOW AND YOU WILL NOT BE HARMED.
WHERE'S DORYU?
HE'S GOT ELIE, RIGHT?

TEE HEE HEE!
I CAN'T WIN, HUH?!
パチ！
WE'LL JUST SEE ABOUT THAT!
ガ
!!
ク

ザパアァァー
CRAP!!
ボコ
ボコ
PUUN!!
ボコ
PUUN!!
ボコ
NO MATTER HOW MANY OF YOU THERE ARE, DOWN HERE IT'S LIKE SHOOTING FISH IN A BARREL!

サリフ゜゛
DAMMIT!! HOW CAN YOU STAND ON THE WATER LIKE THAT?!
MY DARK BRING MAKES MY BODY ONE WITH THE AIR!
WIND?!
ヒョ゛ヒ゛
オ゛オオ
NORTH WIND!!
NOW...
...LET US BEGIN.
ヒョオオオ

WHIRLWIND!!
WHAT THE--?!
HER BODY HAS TRANSFORMED INTO BLADES!
SHIELD WAVE!!
SMACK
WHAT?!
TH-THE WAVE BLOCKED THE ATTACK!

I CAN USE SEA MAGIC ANYWHERE THERE'S WATER!
IT WOULDN'T WORK AGAINST THE ONI, BUT HERE MY MAGIC IS QUITE POWERFUL!
GRR...
CELIA!! YOU ROCK!
OH, HARU...! YOU SHOULDN'T SAY SUCH THINGS! IT MAKES ME TOO HAPPY!
......
CELIA'S UNDERWATER BREATHING SPELL HASN'T WORN OFF YET, HAS IT, POYO?
I DON'T THINK SO.
?
THEN FOLLOW ME, POYO!
THIS WAY LEADS TO ANOTHER CELL, POYO! ELIE'S PROBABLY THERE, POYO!
REALLY?!
I KNOW A LOT ABOUT THIS SHIP, POYO.
I USED TO LIKE DORYU'S "HAUNTED HOUSE" WHEN I WAS LITTLE, POYO.

I REALLY HATE IT NOW, THOUGH, POYO!
OKAY! LET'S GO!
HANG ON, MASTER PLUE!
PUUN!
NO!! I WON'T ALLOW IT!!
WHIRLWIND!!
SPLIT
WHOOOA!!
WHAT THE--?! HOW THE HELL CAN SHE ATTACK WITH WIND WHILE UNDERWATER?
THAT WAS CLOSE!
IN THE REALM OF THE DARK, WE DON'T PLAY BY YOUR RULES!
UNDERWATER COMBAT'S MY SPECIALTY!
NOT GOOD. WITH HER WIND, SHE'S FASTER THAN WE ARE.

WATER CAESAR!!
UGH!
CELIA!!
I'LL HOLD HER OFF!
YOU GO AHEAD!
WHAT ARE YOU DOIN'?! COME WITH US!
I'LL BE FINE! I CAN STOP HER!
JUST... JUST LET ME DO THIS. LET ME HELP.
GIVE ME A BREAK!!
SOME SEA MAGIC-USING TWIT THINKS SHE CAN FIGHT *ME*?!
THAT'S RIGHT.

ズズ…
スル…
ブホッ
GIVE THESE BACK TO ELIE!
OKAY!
I'LL CATCH UP LATER!
DON'T WORRY-- I'LL BE OKAY.
THIS IS ONE MERMAID THAT WILL NOT LOSE UNDER-WATER!

ELIZABETH
RAVE MASTER

RAVE:119 ✚ MERMAID IN LOVE

A MERMAID?!
HARU...LET'S GO. CELIA CAN TAKE CARE OF HERSELF.
BUT--
I'M ALL RIGHT!
BE BRAVE, HARU!!

YOU HAVE TO FIND ELIE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
NO! I WON'T LET THEM!
ギュ
BUT I WILL!
ドン
GYAAH!!
GO!! NOW!!
SHOVE
CELIA!!
ガシャン
NO! I CAN'T LEAVE A GIRL TO FIGHT ALONE LIKE THIS!!
GO...

PLEASE, HARU. GO SAVE ELIE.
AFTER ALL THAT YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS DID FOR MY PEOPLE, I MUST RETURN THE FAVOR.
IT'S THE MERMAID WAY.
'KAY?
CELIA...
THE FESTIVAL...
!
THE MERMAID VILLAGE FESTIVAL...
I'LL BE THERE! IT'LL BE GREAT!
YES! THE STAR SONG FESTIVAL!
WE CAN SEE IT TOGETHER!

CURSE HER!
WHO DOES THAT MERMAID THINK SHE IS?!
A MERE MERMAID THINKS SHE CAN DEFEAT ME?! NOT ON HER LIFE!
I'LL TEACH YOU...
...HOW SCARY A "MERE MERMAID" CAN BE IN HER ELEMENT!
ドン!
S-SHE'S SO FAST!!

YOU THINK YOU'RE FAST?! I CAN SWIM LAPS AROUND YOU!!
UNH!
IT'S LIKE I TOLD YOU--A MERMAID'S INVINCIBLE UNDERWATER!!
TASTE MY BLUE ECSTASY-- THE MOST POWERFUL SEA MAGIC OF ALL!!
BLUE ECSTASY?!
THERE'S NO WAY A TWIT LIKE YOU CAN USE THAT!
!!
A MAGIC UNDER-WATER WARD?!

WITH MY POWER AMPLIFIED WITHIN THE MAGIC WARD...
...EVEN I CAN USE BLUE ECSTASY!
ゴォオオオォ
SHE WASN'T SWIMMING AROUND AT RANDOM?!
......
EH?
THIS SYMBOL'S WRONG.
REALLY... ?!
NO.
SUCKER!!
ズバァ
KYAAAAH!!
SLICE

THAT WAS LOW!
YOU TRICKED ME!!
THAT'S BATTLE FOR YA, HONEY.
SEE, THERE'RE TWO REASONS WHY YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE...
FIRST, YOU HAVE INSUFFICIENT COMBAT EXPERIENCE.
NO MATTER HOW FAST YOU SWIM, YOUR REACTIONS ARE FAR TOO SLOW.
WHICH MEANS...
...YOU CAN'T DODGE MY ATTACKS!!
AAAGH!!
WINCE

THAT HURT!!
WHOOSH
THE SECOND REASON YOU CAN'T BEAT ME...
...IS THAT NONE OF YOUR ATTACKS WORK AGAINST WIND!
YOUR SURPRISE ATTACK WORKED...
...BUT HEAD-TO-HEAD, YOUR ATTACKS CANNOT SURPASS THE SPEED OF THE WIND!
UNDERSTAND?
YOU HAVE NO CHANCE WHATSOEVER.
パラ
パラ

I WONDER...
ぱっ
!
ゴゴゴゴ…
SEALING OCEAN!!
HUH?!
WHAT IS THIS?!

YOU'RE SEALED INSIDE A MAGIC WATER BUBBLE.
ザパァァァ
CURSES!!
YOU CAN USE YOUR WIND POWER ALL YOU WANT INSIDE OF THE BUBBLE--BUT YOU'LL NEVER BREAK THROUGH IT!
AAAAAH!!
ボコ
ボコ
ボコ
I GOT CARELESS!
HOW COULD I LET THIS HAPPEN?!
LET ME OUT!
IF YOU DON'T, THE LITTLE LADY DIES!!
CAN'T FOOL ME TWICE YOU WON'T BE HURTING ANYONE ELSE FOR A LONG TIME!
DAMN.

YAY!! I WON!!
HARU WILL PRAISE ME AGAIN!!
Later! ♡ The spell'll wear off in 24 hours or so!
24 HOURS ...
W- WAIT!!
!
I-I SURRENDER! I ACCEPT MY DEFEAT!
ボコ
ボコ
NICE TRY. I'M STILL NOT LETTING YOU OUT.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT! I HAVE SOME ADVICE-- WOMAN TO WOMAN.
ボコ
ボコ
I'LL TELL YOU HOW TO CAPTURE MASTER HARU'S HEART.
REALLY?!

YOU LOVE HARU, DON'T YOU?
H-HOW DID YOU...?
I'VE BEEN AROUND THE BLOCK A FEW TIMES. I CAN TELL WHEN A GIRL'S GOT THAT LOOK.
O-OKAY...
SO YOU HAVE THE HOTS FOR YOUNG MASTER HARU...AND WHO COULD BLAME YOU? BUT THAT GIRL ELIE IS STANDING IN YOUR WAY... AM I RIGHT?
N-NO! I DON'T THINK THAT!
SHE'S NOT IN THE WAY!
CERTAINLY HARU AND ELIE ARE CLOSE, BUT...ELIE'S JUST HIS FRIEND.
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT...FOR NOW. BUT FACE IT-- YOU CAN'T WIN AGAINST ELIE.
AFTER ALL...
...HUMANS AND SENTENOIDS CAN NEVER BE TOGETHER.
I UNDERSTOOD THAT...
...FROM THE START...

BUT AT LEAST I CAN DREAM ABOUT IT!
プイッ
I CAN LOVE WHOMEVER I CHOOSE, EVEN IF IT WILL NEVER BECOME REALITY!
A TRUE ROMANTIC, EH?
BUT IT'S TOO SOON FOR YOU TO GIVE UP. YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE.
IF...YOU BECOME *HUMAN.*
HUMAN?!
I HAVE A SECRET POTION THAT'LL TURN ANYONE INTO A HUMAN.
Y-YOU DO? IT COULD TURN **ME** INTO A **HUMAN**?
THE TRANSFORMATION IS QUICK AND PAINLESS. IN FACT, I HAVE IT HERE WITH ME. RELEASE ME AND IT'S YOURS.
O-OKAY.
ザパァ
HA!

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH, YOU STUPID, STUPID GIRL!
ゴゴゴゴ
ぬーん
NOW— TURN ME INTO A HUMAN!!
HUH?!
UM...ER... THAT WAS JUST AN EXCUSE TO GET YOU TO LET ME OUT...
Never mind that!! Make me a Human, QUICK!!
GIMME A BREAK!! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED!
JUST HOW...

...STUPID ARE YOU?!
KYAAAH!!
ARE YOU EVEN FOR REAL?!
ヒョオオオオ
MERMAID LOVE?! THAT'S THE STUFF OF FAIRY TALES!
GACK!
A MERMAID CAN'T LOVE A HUMAN!
....!!!

......
SO IT...
...IS HOPELESS...
FOOLISH LITTLE MERMAID! BUT FEAR NOT--YOU AND YOUR WOULD-BE LOVER WILL SOON BE REUNITED...
...IN DEATH!!
BECAUSE IT ENDS HERE!!
ギュウー
!!
WAIT...
WE'RE INSIDE THE UNDERWATER MAGIC WARD?!
YOU KNOW, IT'S KINDA EMBARRASSING TO HEAR YOU TALK ABOUT MY FEELINGS...

...SO WHY DON'T YOU SHUT UP!!
BLUE ECSTASY!!
WHAT?!
A TRAP?!
NYAAAAAAAAAAH!!

YOUR WIND IS USELESS IF YOU CAN'T FLY.
TELLING PEOPLE HOW THEY SHOULD FEEL IS **WRONG**.
I DON'T CARE IF I **AM** A MERMAID...
...WHEN IT COMES TO **LOVE**, RACE DOESN'T MATTER.

RAVE MASTER™

Ruby's Love Ballad

Verse/ Ruby & the Penguin Chicks
Chorus/ Three Stray Cats

So you think you're in love, poyo?
Hyu hyu huh, poyo
Hironari and Yuusuke
Takeharu and Hiroshi
Love-love, love-love
Happy, poyo?
On the phone, poyo?

Pyo pyo, poyo?
Rie-chan and Mi-chan
Momo-chan and Miho-chan
Love-love, love-love
Lovely, poyo?

* Po po po po poyoooo
Po po po po poyoooo
Po poyo poyo poyo
Po poyo poyoo
(x4)

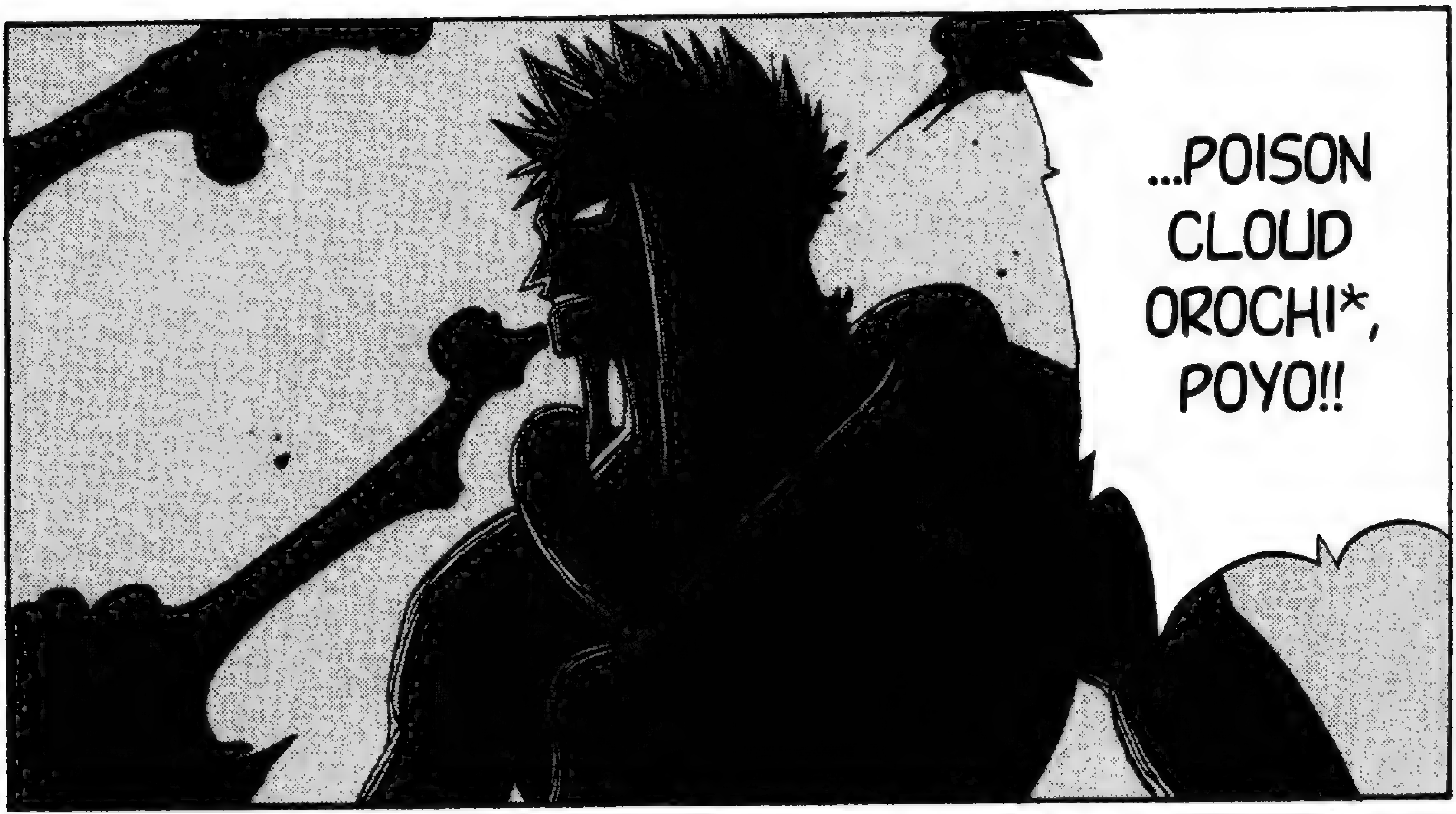
RAVE:120 ✚ DARKNESS FALLS

がら〜…ん
ELIE'S NOT HERE, EITHER.
WHERE COULD SHE BE?
I DON'T GET IT, POYO. I COULD HAVE SWORN THIS WAS THE LAST CELL, POYO.
THERE'S A TRACE OF ELIE'S SCENT.
SHE MUST HAVE BEEN MOVED FROM HERE A SHORT TIME AGO.
SCENT?
THAT'S IT! PLUE, YOU CAN TRACK BY SCENT!
ぴく
ぴく
PUUN!!

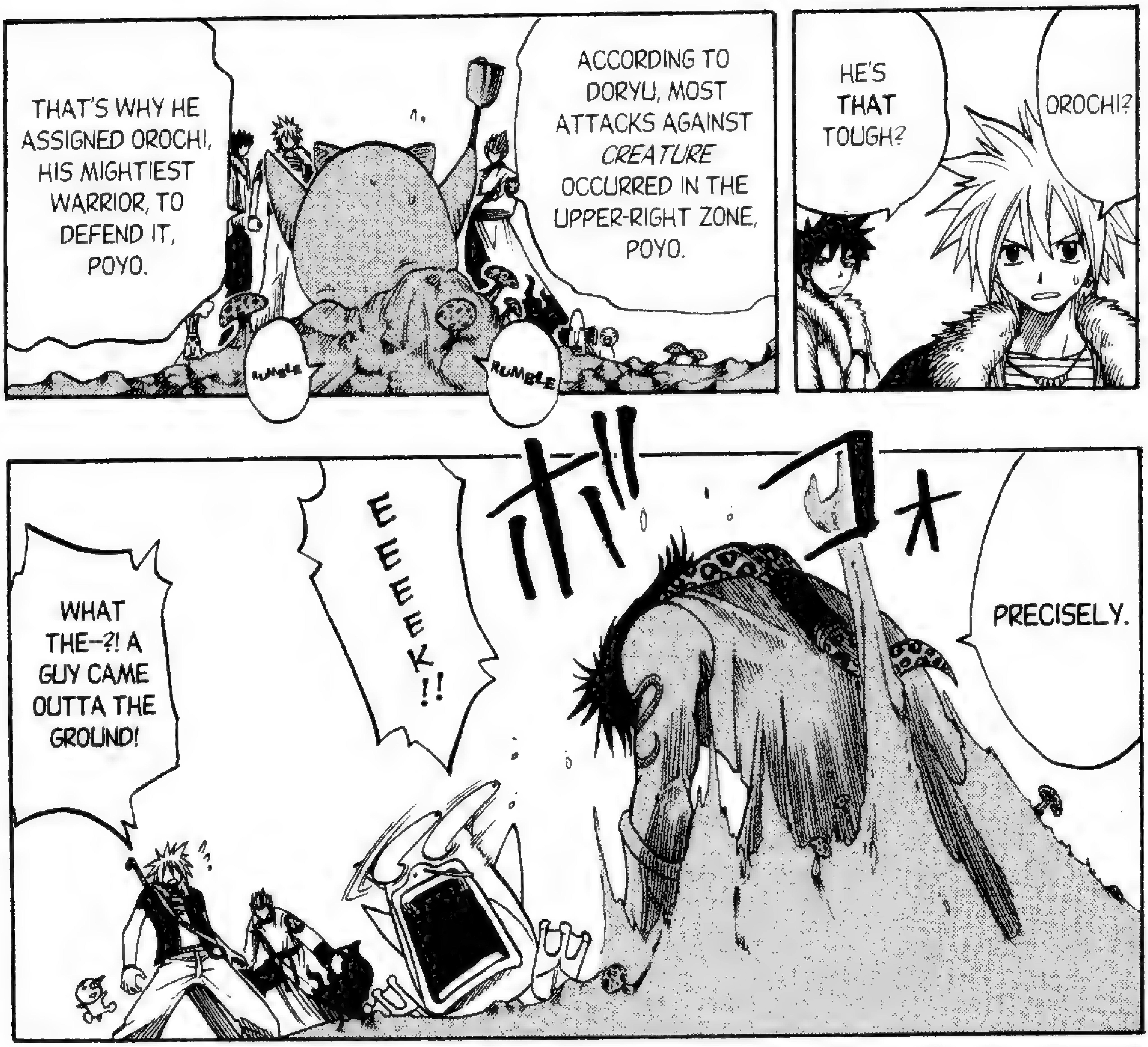
PUUUN!!
ぷく
ぷく
PUUN!!
ゴゴ
ゴゴ
PUUN!!
ゴゴゴゴゴ

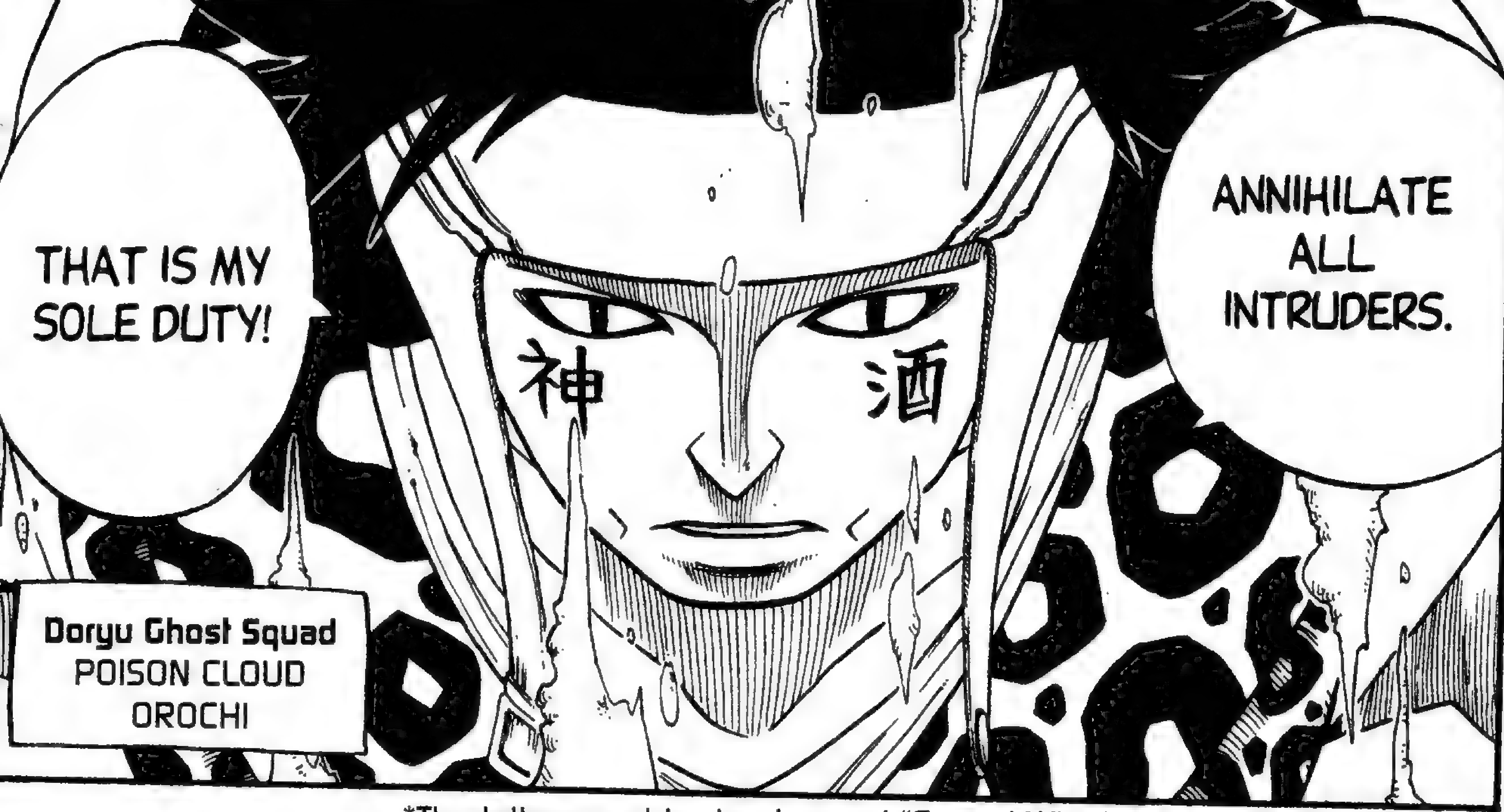
PUUN?
ばさっ
I'VE BEEN MAPPING A BIT AS WE'VE TRAVELED THROUGH THE SHIP.
SHE MUST BE IN THAT CASTLE.
CREATURE
N
W
E
S
IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT, WE SHOULD NOW BE NORTHEAST OF WHERE WE BOARDED.
WE ARRIVED AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SHIP.
Boarded
Graveyard Vs. Zombie Cookie
Forest Vs. Wolf & Mummy
Musica Rescued
Underground Cell Vs. Lilith
Prison Ruby Rescued
Prison Zone Couldn't Find Elie
Present Location
きょろ
きょろ
WHAT IS IT, RUBY?
TH-THAT'S...

I'M SURE OF IT, POYO!! WE'RE IN THE POISON ZONE, POYO!!
POISON ZONE?
OH NO, POYO!! THIS IS BAD, POYO!!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THERE ARE A LOT OF TOXIC MUSHROOMS HERE.
MR. RUBY, PLEASE CALM DOWN AND EXPLAIN.
SHUDDer...
DORYU'S SHIP, *CREATURE*, IS DIVIDED INTO **FIVE ZONES**, POYO.
ズズズ…
EACH IS RUN BY A DIFFERENT MEMBER OF DORYU'S ARMY, POYO.
COOKIE RAN THE **TOMB ZONE**, MUMMY AND HIS WOLVES THE **WOOD ZONE**... LILITH THE **TEMPTATION** ZONE...
Present Location
Troll Zone
Tomb Zone
Temptation Zone
Wood Zone
THE TROLL ZONE IN THE UPPER-LEFT SECTION IS RUN BY FRANKEN BILLY...
...AND IN THE UPPER-RIGHT CORNER, WHERE WE ARE NOW, IS THE POISON ZONE...
Poison Zone
...WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY THE DORYU GHOST SQUAD'S MIGHTIEST WARRIOR...

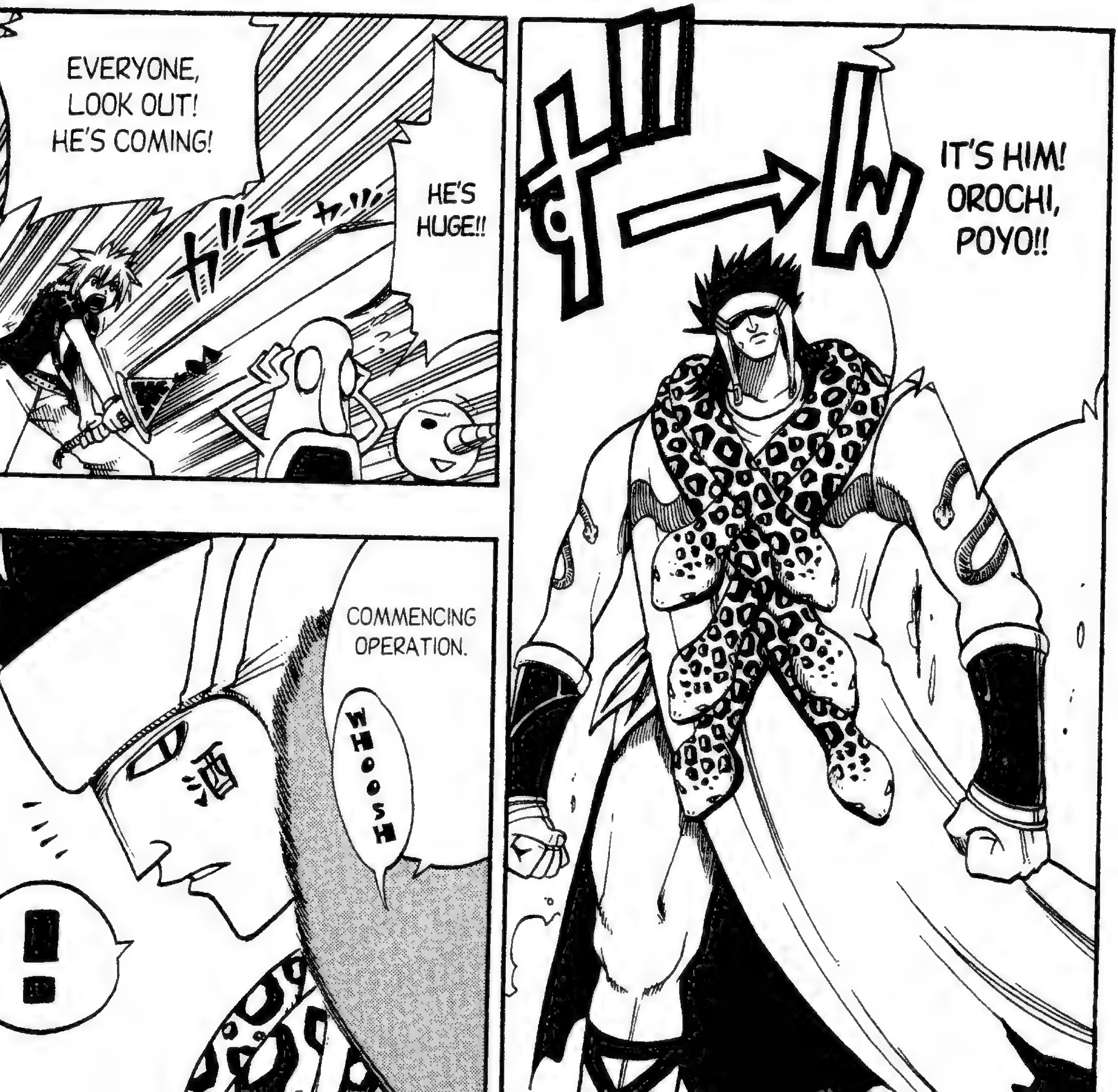

...POISON CLOUD OROCHI*, POYO!!

*Orochi is a mythical eight-headed serpent.


OROCHI?
HE'S **THAT** TOUGH?
ACCORDING TO DORYU, MOST ATTACKS AGAINST *CREATURE* OCCURRED IN THE UPPER-RIGHT ZONE, POYO.
THAT'S WHY HE ASSIGNED OROCHI, HIS MIGHTIEST WARRIOR, TO DEFEND IT, POYO.
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
PRECISELY.
ボゴオ
EEEEK!!
WHAT THE--?! A GUY CAME OUTTA THE GROUND!


ANNIHILATE ALL INTRUDERS.
THAT IS MY SOLE DUTY!
神
酒
Doryu Ghost Squad POISON CLOUD OROCHI

*The tattoos on his cheeks read "Sacred Wine"


ずーん
IT'S HIM! OROCHI, POYO!!
HE'S HUGE!!
EVERYONE, LOOK OUT! HE'S COMING!
ガチャ!!
COMMENCING OPERATION.
WHOOSH
酒
!!

I'VE HEARD OF THE DORYU GHOST SQUAD'S STRONGEST MAN.
I WILL BE YOUR OPPONENT.
LET!!
DO NOT INTERFERE.
ばっ
龍
COMMENCING...
...OPERATION.
酒

ズガガガガ
COME, THEN!!
ザッ
GUY'S PRETTY GOOD. HE'S BLOCKIN' EVERYTHING LET CAN THROW AT HIM.
ズガガガ
GET HIM, LET!! YOU CAN DO IT, POYO!!
IT SEEMS... WE'RE EVENLY MATCHED.
EXECUTING MISSION.
DESTROY...
うにょ〜
...ALL...

ブゴゴオオ
... INTRUDERS!!
!!
IT'S HIS POISON CLOUD, POYO!!
WHAT?!
IT'S SPREADING OVER HERE!
THAT CREEP'S NOT PLAYING FAIR! HE'S TRYING TO TAKE US ALL OUT!
IF WE INHALE IT, WE'LL DIE INSTANTLY, POYO!!
THE POISON CLOUD... DB **DEATH POISON.**
I SHOULD... HAVE KNOWN...
オオオオ

GAAASP!!
WHERE DID HE GO?!
!
HE AIN'T HERE!
HE'S DISAPPEARED!
THERE ARE TRACKS OVER HERE!
THEY LEAD THIS WAY!
THEN WE SHALL FOLLOW! WE CANNOT LET SUCH AN ENEMY GET AWAY!
RIGHT!
I'M SURE IT'S A TRAP, POYO!!
!
THERE'S SOMEONE ON THE GROUND!
HARU! DON'T GET TOO CLOSE!
IT'S A TRAP, POYO!!

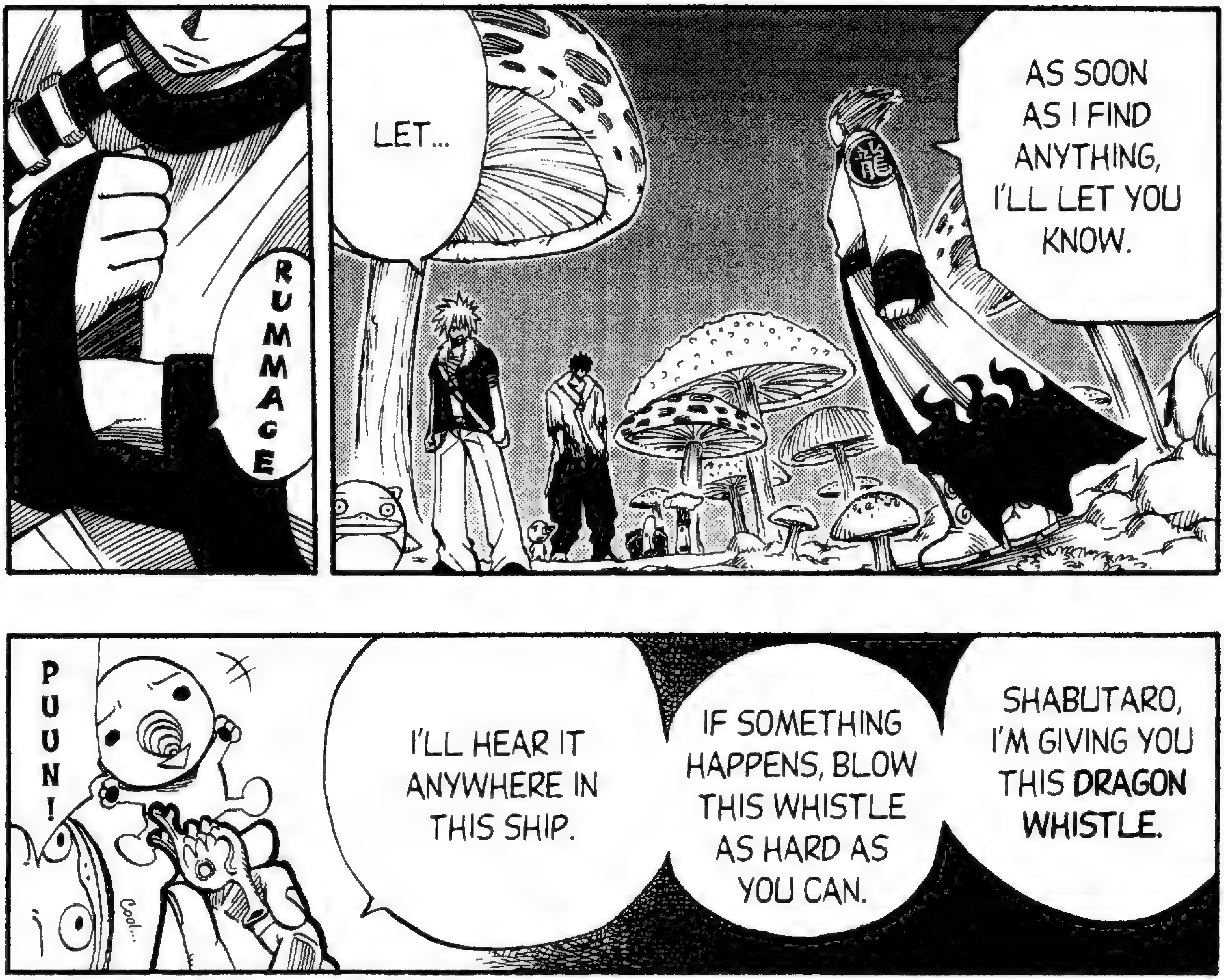
!!
!
!!
!
HUH?!
……

HE'S DEAD.
WHAAAAT?!
NO WAY!
WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED?!
THE DORYU GHOST SQUAD'S NUMBER ONE WARRIOR...
...IS DEAD, POYO!
DEAD...
WH-WHO DID THIS?!
IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MISS ELIE, COULD IT?!
NO. LOOK CLOSER.
ONLY ONE MAN KILLS THIS WAY.

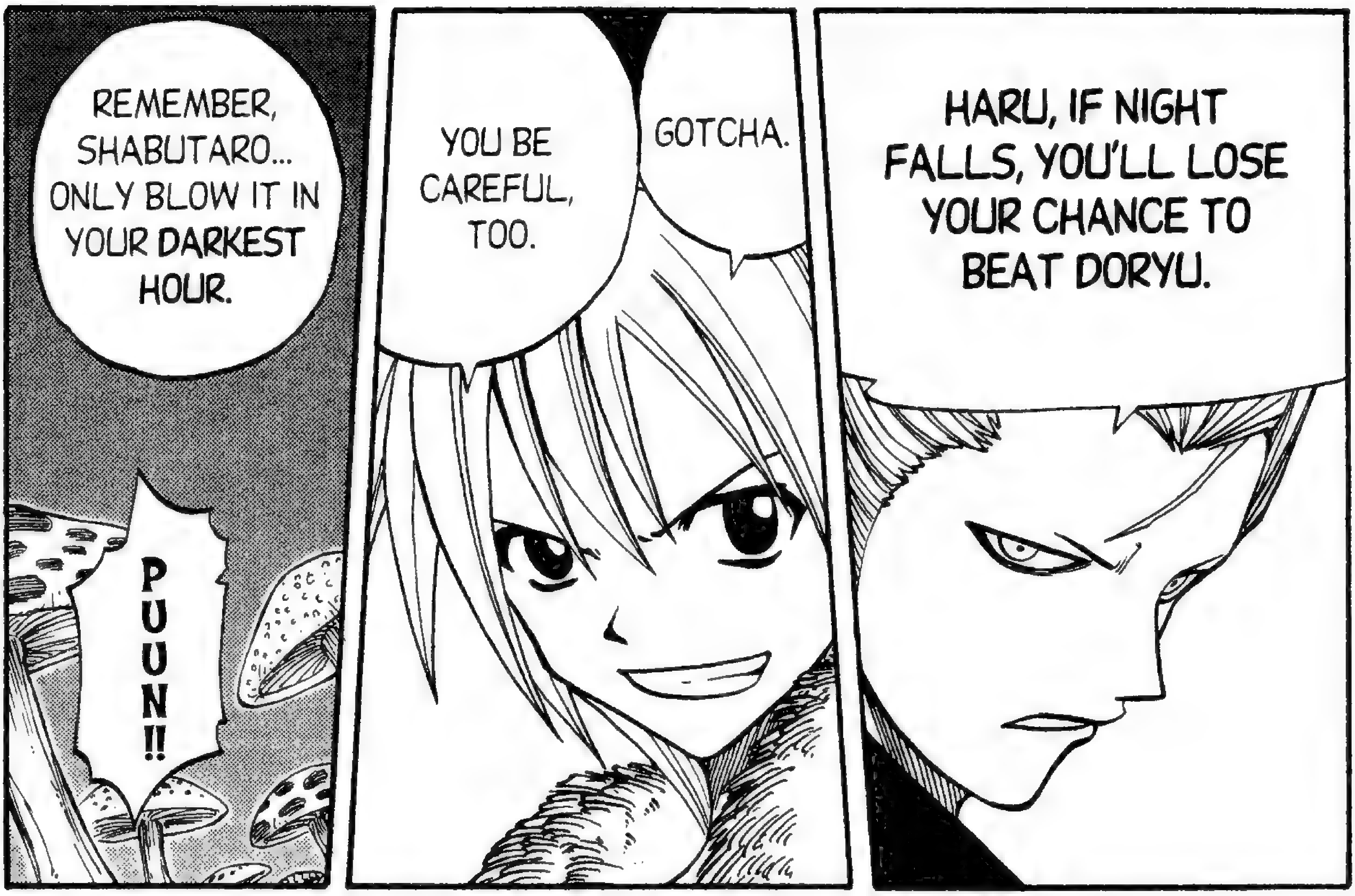
JEGAN!!

ドクー!
YES... DRAGON MASTER JEGAN... MEMBER OF THE ORACION SIX...
HE MAY STILL BE NEAR.
DEMON CARD?!
WHAT THE HECK ARE THEY DOING HERE?!
PROBABLY AFTER DORYU'S PIECE OF SINCLAIRE.
SINCLAIRE!! DORYU HAS A PIECE OF SINCLAIRE?!
SORRY. I FORGOT TO TELL YOU. I FOUND OUT AFTER HE CAPTURED ME.
THIS IS GETTING COMPLICATED, POYO.
TO HAVE KILLED THIS MAN SO EASILY...
...JEGAN MUST BE MUCH MORE SKILLED THAN I!

I WILL REMAIN HERE.
すくっ
HUH?!
I HAVE A FEELING...
...SOMETHING BAD IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN.
?
JEGAN IS ALWAYS WITH JULI--ER, I MEAN, HIS BLACK DRAGON.
BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF A DRAGON HAVING BEEN HERE. SHE MUST BE WAITING SOMEWHERE ELSE.
HE'S PLANNING SOMETHING.
I'D BETTER SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT WHAT THAT IS.


AS SOON AS I FIND ANYTHING, I'LL LET YOU KNOW.
LET...
RUMMAGE
SHABUTARO, I'M GIVING YOU THIS **DRAGON WHISTLE.**
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, BLOW THIS WHISTLE AS HARD AS YOU CAN.
I'LL HEAR IT ANYWHERE IN THIS SHIP.
PUUN!
Cool...

*see vol. 13--Shabutaro is a fabricated word that Let associates with Plue.


HARU, IF NIGHT FALLS, YOU'LL LOSE YOUR CHANCE TO BEAT DORYU.
GOTCHA.
YOU BE CAREFUL, TOO.
REMEMBER, SHABUTARO... ONLY BLOW IT IN YOUR **DARKEST** HOUR.
PUUN!!

PEEP
PEEP
PEEP
PEEP
ぐもーーん
CUT THAT OUT!!
PEEP
PEEP
PEEP
THAT'S MASTER PLUE FOR YOU.
MAN, THAT'S ANNOYING!
Mean-while...
PEEP
PEEP
PEEP
WHY DID I EVER GIVE THAT THING TO HIM?
ピタッ
PEEEEEP
PEEP
PEEP
WELL, HERE WE ARE.
DORYU'S CASTLE, POYO.
YEAH...

ELIE'S SOMEWHERE IN THERE!
ゴゴゴゴ

RAVEOOQA

Question Corner

Q. WHAT'S THE ENGLISH ON THE JAPANESE COVER MEAN?

—TABASCO FROM SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE

A. ENGLISH...? OH! YOU MEAN...

HARU & FRIENDS
GO ON A TRIP ROUND THE WORLD
TO BREAK "DEMON CARD."
WE CALL HIS WEAPON "RAVE"

YEAH. THAT WAS JUST ME HAVING FUN WITH A LITERAL TRANSLATION. I WONDER WHAT MY ENGLISH-SPEAKING READERS THINK OF IT?

Q. MASHIMA-SENSEI,
YOU WRITE THAT YOU'RE NOT VERY SMART, BUT I THINK YOU ARE.

—COCOA COOKIE FROM HOKKAIDO

A. REALLY? THANKS (^_^)! BUT IN HIGH SCHOOL, MY SCORES WERE QUITE SOMETHING. EVERYTHING I GOT BACK (EXCEPT FOR MATH) WAS ALL PRETTY WITH RED MARKS. I NEVER GOT BETTER THAN A C IN ENGLISH—OR JAPANESE, EITHER (^^;). ECONOMICS AND SCIENCE WERE LIKE THAT, TOO. THE ONLY SUBJECTS WHERE I DID ALL RIGHT WERE PHYS. ED AND ART, BUT THAT WASN'T GONNA GET ME A JOB. (OR SO I THOUGHT.)

SO, SAD AS IT SOUNDS, I USED MY ILLUSTRIOUS SKILLS TO GET INTO A TRADE SCHOOL, BUT THEY TOLD ME "YOU'LL NEVER GRADUATE WITH GRADES LIKE THAT!" (AND WITH MY TRACK RECORD, THEY HAD EVERY REASON TO THINK THAT). BUT SOMEHOW, I *JUST* MANAGED TO SQUEAK THROUGH AND GET MY DEGREE. SO YOU SEE, I'M REALLY NOT THAT BRIGHT. I'M JUST LUCKY I GOT INTO MANGA BEFORE I ENDED UP A BEAN COUNTER.

RAVE MASTER
PHO
PHO
PHO
DEHYA
HYAHYA
RAVERS
RAVERS

RAVE:121 ✚ DARKNESS RISING

LISTEN UP, HARU...
I'M ONLY GOING TO SAY THIS ONCE...
...DORYU IS WAY STRONGER THAN ANYONE WE'VE FOUGHT BEFORE.
TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, HE'S A MONSTER.
Pi
Pi
TO BEAT HIM...
...WE'VE GOTTA LET LOOSE WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT!

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.
WE'RE A TEAM! WITH EVERYONE'S STRENGTH AND COURAGE WORKING AS ONE, NO ONE CAN STOP US!
PUUN!
WE'LL WIN, POYO!
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
!!
YOU CAN SAY THAT ALL YOU WANT *NOW*...
...BUT ONCE HE HITS YOU WITH HIS **TRUE POWER**...
...YOU AIN'T GETTIN' BACK UP. **EVER.**

EVEN IF YOU ARE THE RAVE MASTER.
HEY! YOU'RE THAT BIG-HANDED GUY FROM THE CASINO!
I'd know your stench anywhere!
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, MR. HARU!
IT'S BILLY, POYO! WE FINALLY MADE IT TO THE TROLL ZONE, POYO!
YOU AIN'T GETTIN' IN THIS CASTLE.
SO YOU BEAT OROCHI AND LILITH...NOT BAD.
DORYU'S GONNA BE PISSED WHEN HE FINDS OUT THAT HIS GUARDS GOT SLOPPY.
LILITH?
THAT MEANS CELIA WON, POYO!!

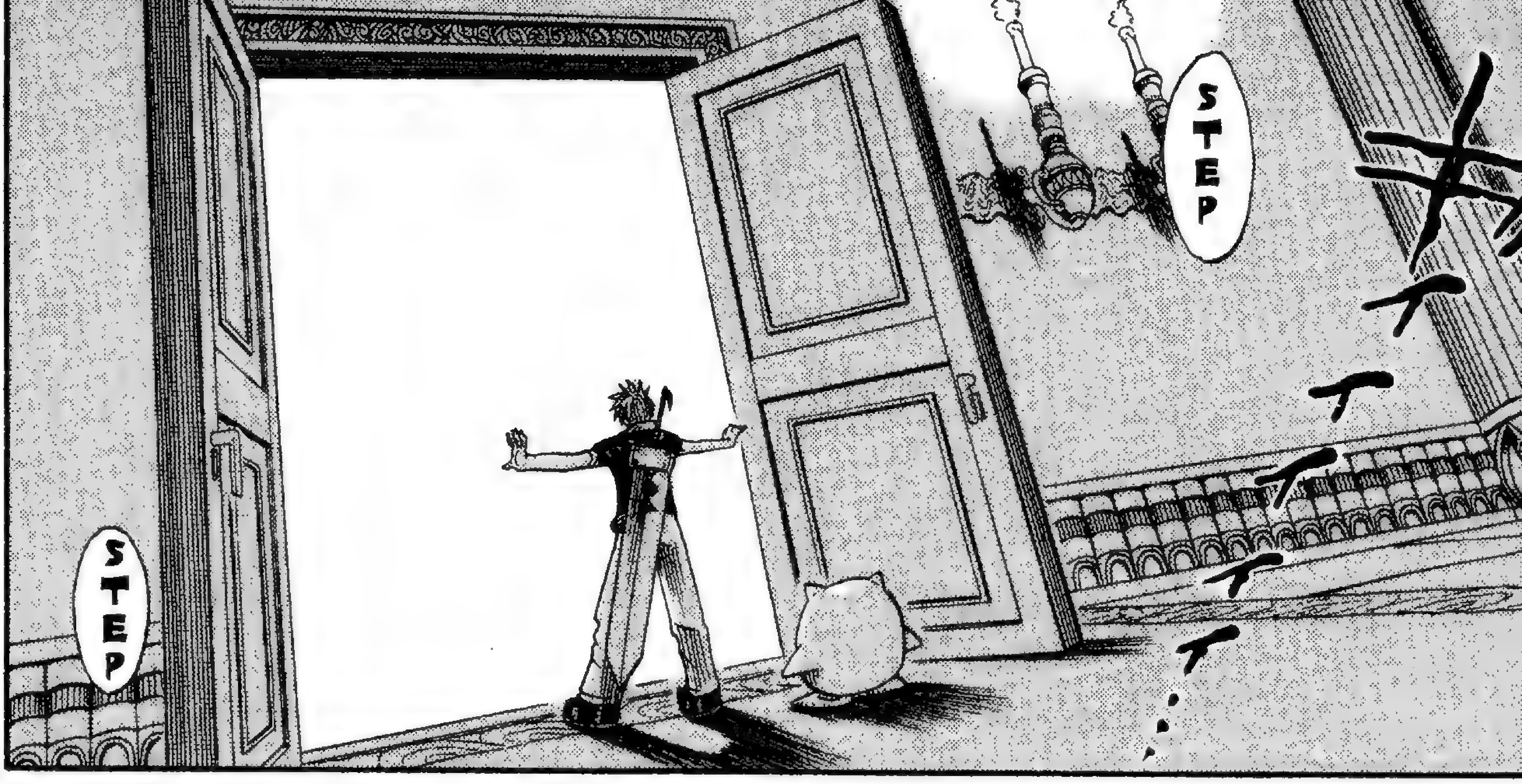
OROCHI WAS ON THE FRONTLINE... BUT I'M EVEN MEANER!
HE'S HUGE!!
PUUN!!
TIME TO TASTE FIST!
HARU, LEAVE THIS GOON TO ME.
HUH?
YOU AIN'T GOT TIME FOR A TWO-BIT HOOD LIKE HIM!
GWAAH!!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, HARU. GO AHEAD WITHOUT ME.
BESIDES, HE AND I HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
YOU WON'T EVEN NOTICE I'M GONE.
GOT IT! JUST MAKE SURE YOU'RE RIGHT BEHIND US!
WELL?! WHAT ARE YOU STANDIN' THERE FOR?! ELIE'S WAITING!
?
THAT? I HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED.
YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT!

DUDE!! THIS PLACE IS HUGE!!
Doryu must be behind that door, Poyo!
PUUN!
PUUN!
WHAT'S WRONG, PLUE?
PUUN!
HE SAYS MISS ELIE IS THROUGH THERE?!
PUUN!
EH?!
ELIE'S DOWN THERE?!
HE SAYS HER SCENT IS COMING FROM INSIDE!
HOW CAN GRIFF UNDERSTAND PLUE, POYO?

THIS VENT PROBABLY LEADS TO A CELL OF SOME SORT.
HARU, WHAT'LL WE DO, POYO?
PLUE, GRIFF, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HANDLE THIS?
YOU CAN COUNT ON US! WE'RE GOOD AT THESE TYPES OF MISSIONS!
PUUN!
GOOD. YOU TWO FIND A WAY TO RESCUE ELIE WHILE I GO CONFRONT DORYU.
PUUN!
ささっ
AYE-AYE, SIR!
Hey! I'm coming, too!
IT'S DARK.
PUUN!
FART
AW, BRO! LAY OFF THE BEANS!
ER...THAT WAS ME.
.....
THEY GONNA BE OKAY?
THEY'LL BE FINE, POYO. IT'S JUST US NOW, POYO.
?

はっ
Y-YOU MEAN IT'S JUST YOU AND ME?!
ごごごご
YES, POYO! WE MUST COMBINE OUR MIGHT, POYO!
THIS IS GONNA BE SO BAD...
LET'S GO.
OKAY!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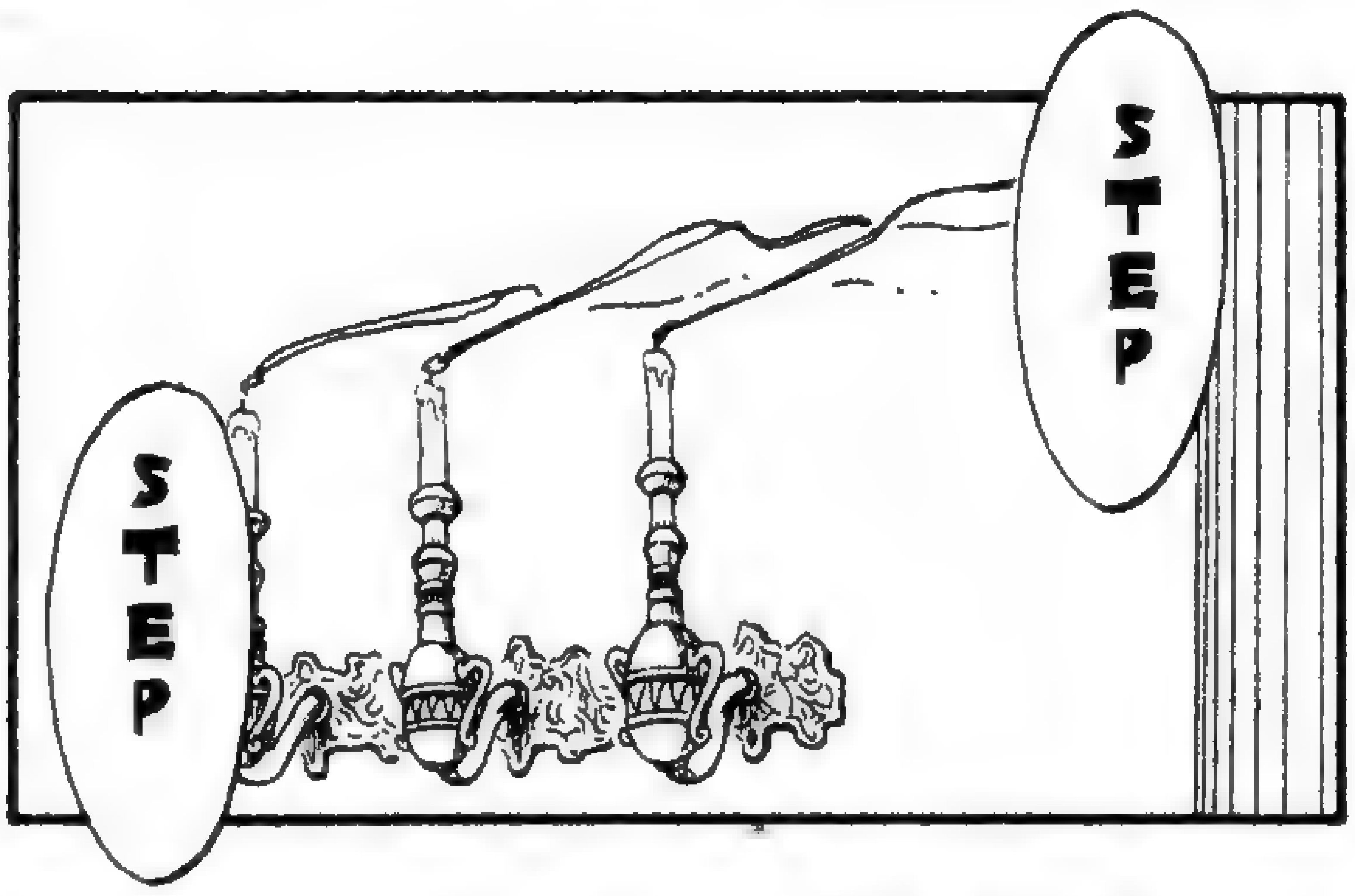
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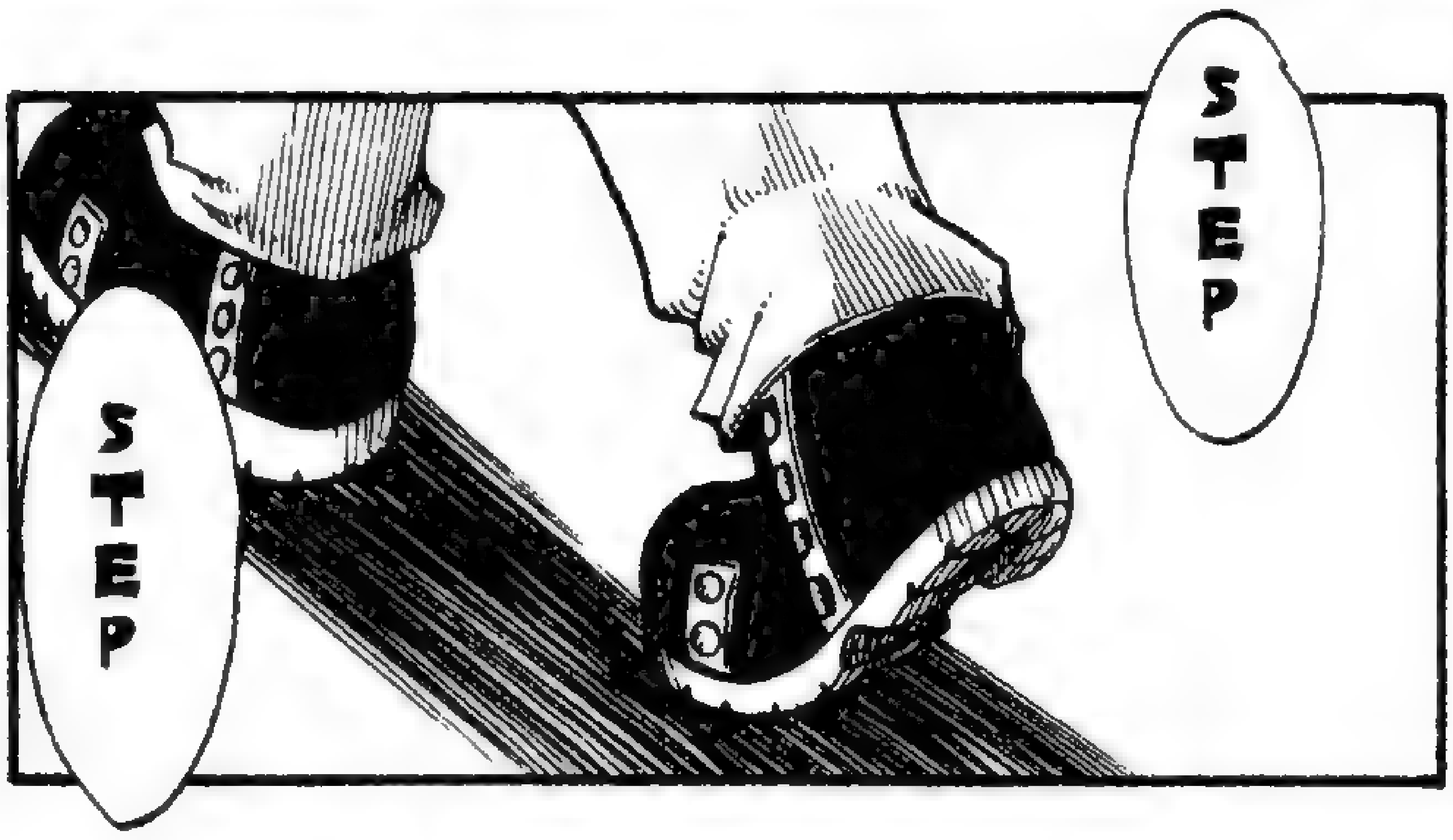
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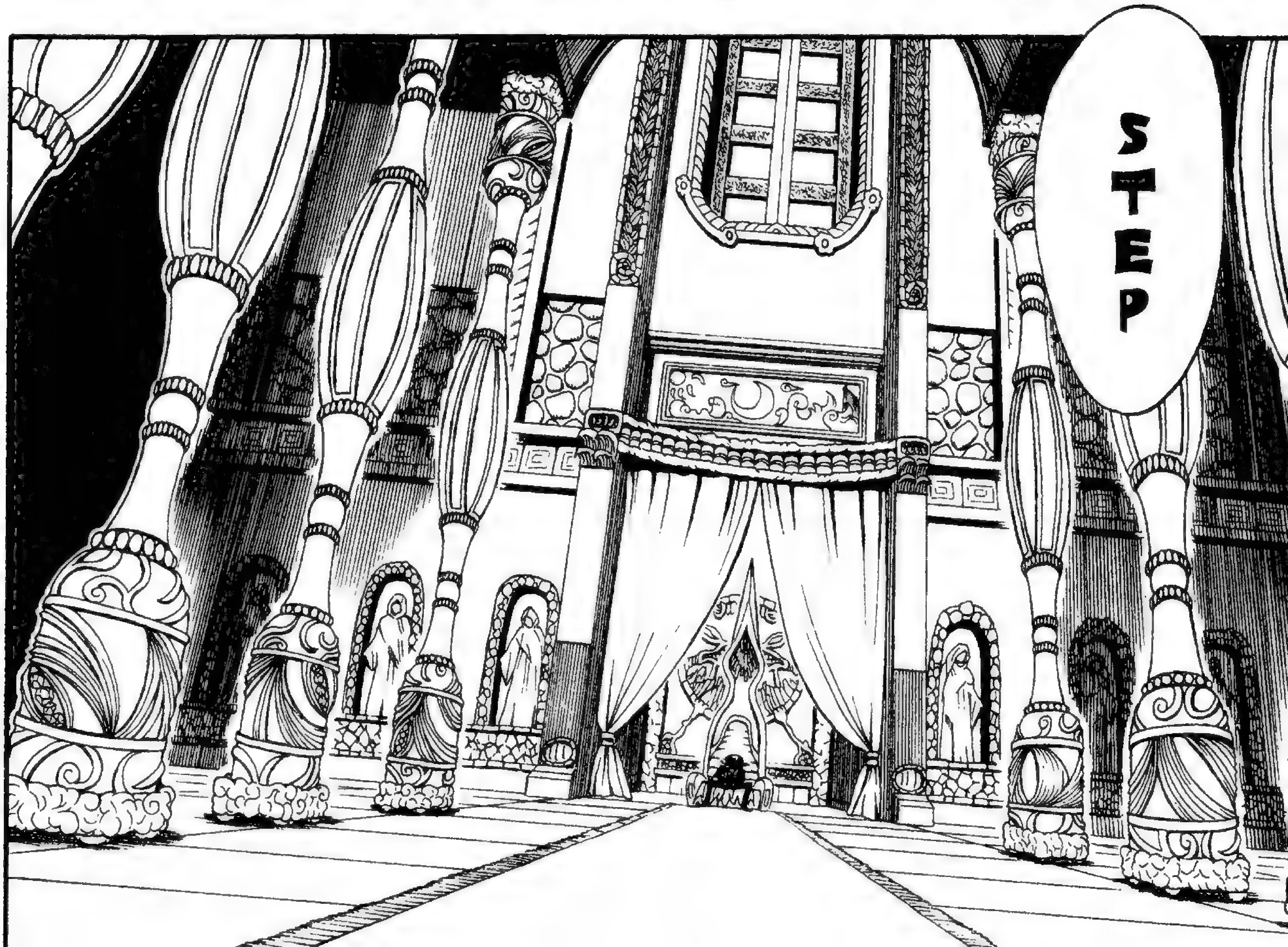
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WELCOME ...
...CHILD OF LIGHT.
DORYU.

I'VE COME TO KICK YOUR ASS. OH, AND USE THE HEAD, IF YOU GOT ONE.
YOU DEFEAT ME? IMPOSSIBLE.
I HAVE NEVER KNOWN "DEFEAT."
......
I KN-KNEW IT!
S-SCARY, POYO!
WHEN DEMON CARD'S FORMER KING FOUGHT ME...

EVEN HIS GREAT DARKNESS COULD NOT DEFEAT ME.
...THE FIGHT ENDED IN A DRAW.
SINCE THEN, I HAVE SURPASSED EVEN KING!
YOU WON--BUT ONLY BECAUSE GALE GLORY, WITH EQUAL POWER, FOUGHT ALONGSIDE YOU.
YES. I SAW IT ALL WITH MY SEEING CRYSTAL, **DARK EYE.**
YEAH? WELL, YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE GUY WHO BEAT KING.
WITHIN ME IS A DARKNESS SO GREAT THAT NO LIGHT CAN DISLODGE IT!!
ゴオ!!
I AM THE DEMON LORD! THE PINNACLE OF DARKNESS!

カッ
Y'KNOW, JUST 'CUZ YOU SHOUT IT, DOESN'T MAKE IT ANY MORE TRUE!!
RAVE'S LIGHT WON'T LOSE TO ANY DARKNESS!!
FOOL.
YOU SHALL SOON KNOW THE POWER OF DARK!
SHOOM
HARU!!

SHOOM
SHOOM
SHOOM
THE DARK IS ABSORBING HIM, POYO!
HE'S BACK TO NORMAL, POYO!!
EH?!
MUSICA WARNED ME...
...TO WATCH OUT FOR WHEN IT STARTS TO GET DARK! THE REAL ABSORPTION COMES LAST!
EAT THIS!!
EXPLOSION!!
SILFARION!!

UWAAH!!
HARU!!
OUCH...
I-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HE DEFLECTED MY ATTACK WITH JUST HIS HAND!
CRACK
YOU DIDN'T HONESTLY EXPECT SUCH AN ATTACK TO DAMAGE ME, DID YOU?

パキ!!
HEH HEH... THE NEXT ONE'LL BREAK *YOU.*
YOU SEE, I, TOO, HAVE GOTTEN STRONGER IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS.
GO, POYO!!
IT APPEARS SO.

SILVER SPEAR COL-CESCA!!
ギャ
GWAAAAH!!

NOT THAT IT'S AN EXCUSE, BUT I GOT CARELESS AGAINST DORYU.
GOT NO ONE TO BLAME BUT MYSELF.
NO WAY... HOW CAN...HE BE... SO STRONG...?
A GUY DORYU BEAT SO EASILY...
BUT I KNOW OF A **WEAPON** I COULD USE AGAINST THAT MONSTER.
HUH?
DON'T PLAY DUMB WITH ME.
THE ONLY REASON I STAYED BEHIND TO FRY A SHRIMP LIKE YOU IS TO GET ANSWERS.
UGHHH!!

?
SEE, I REMEMBER A LITTLE FROM MY TIME AS A WOLF.
......
SO YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME...
...ABOUT THE SILVER RAY.

RAVEOOQA

Q. WHAT'S AN ONI-GOB? WHAT'S AN ONI-OGRE?

—HYOGOKEN - LITTLE KUROMACE

A. HUH? WHAT? AH...!! I SEE!! YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT "ONI RACE" NAMES. WELL GAWARA, GOB AND YANMA HAVE HORNS ON THEIR HEADS, MAKING THEM ALL "ONI" NO MATTER HOW YOU SLICE IT. THE GOB AND OGRE PARTS ARE DIFFERENT, THOUGH. GOB IS SHORT FOR GOBLIN--WHICH IS A MISCHIEVOUS FAIRY-LIKE CREATURE THAT LIKES TO PLAY PRANKS. OGRES, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE A LOT BIGGER AND BRUTISH.

Q. SIEG'S AN ELEMENTAL MASTER, RIGHT? WHAT ELEMENT IS HE ALIGNED WITH?

—? - FRIENDS

A. IT'S HARD TO PIN HIM DOWN TO ANY PARTICULAR ELEMENT. BUT, BASICALLY, HE'S ALIGNED WITH "MAGIC" AND HIS ELEMENTAL POWERS STEM FROM THAT.

Q. HAJA'S FACE LOOKS LIKE AN UPSIDE-DOWN FACE, AS WELL AS A KIND-LOOKING ONE. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN, HIRO-KUN?

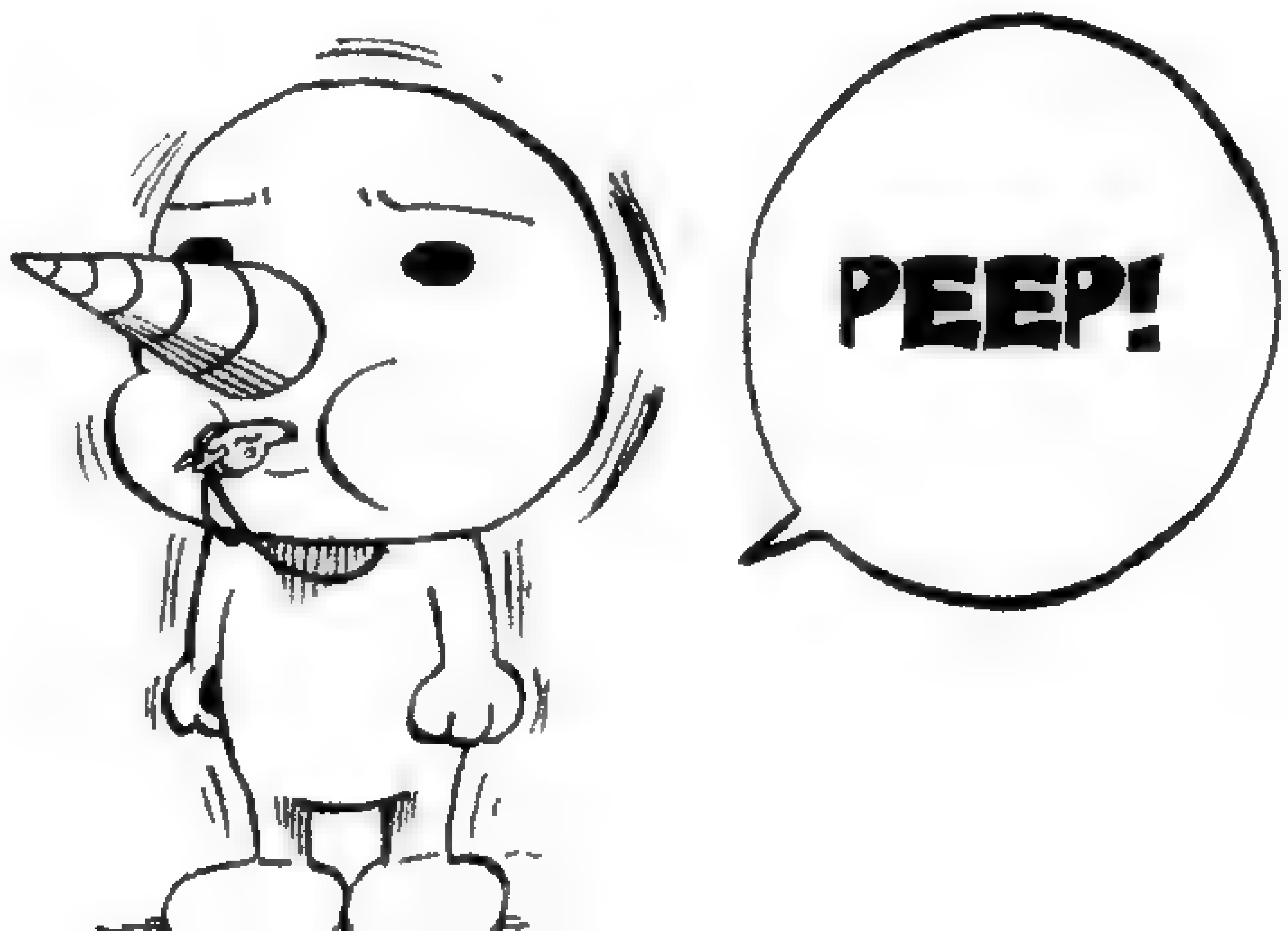
—MIYAGI-KEN - JABA & OTHERS

A. YES...HE DOES LOOK A LOT KINDER WITH THAT FACE, DOESN'T HE? (^_^) I DON'T THINK IT MEANS ANYTHING AT ALL.

Q. WHAT ARE THE "ENDLESS"?

—MIE-KEN - LEMON & LOTS O' OTHERS

A. THAT'S STILL SECRET. YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON.



RAVE MASTER

RAVE:122 ✚ OUR HOPE, EXTINGUISHED?!

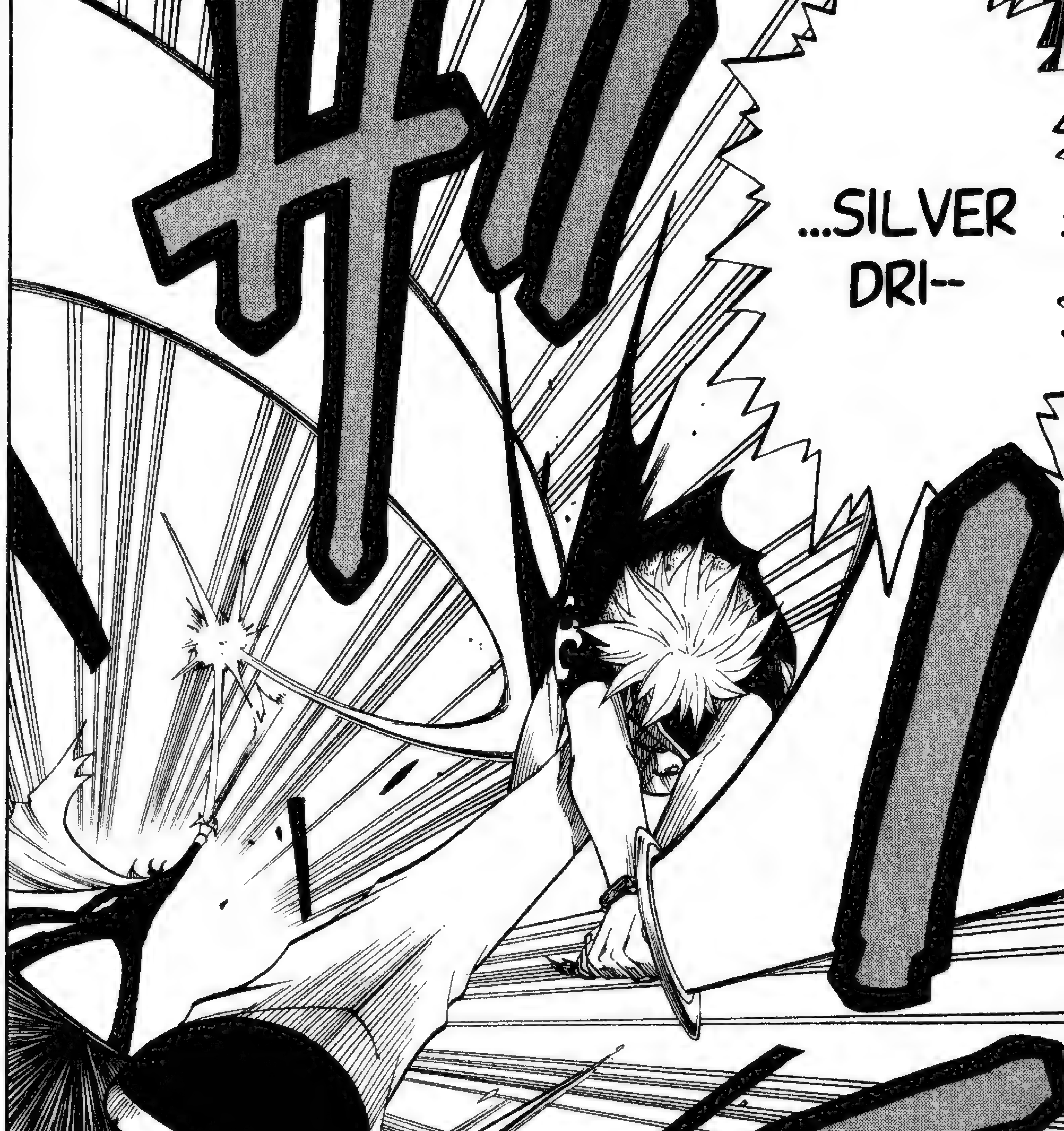
むぎゅうう～～!!
TRY NOT TO GET LOST, GUYS.
IT'S DARK, TOO.
How could you get lost in here?
PUUN!!
......
IT'S... UM... CRAMPED.
Just you wait, Miss Elie! I *will* save you!
PUUN!!

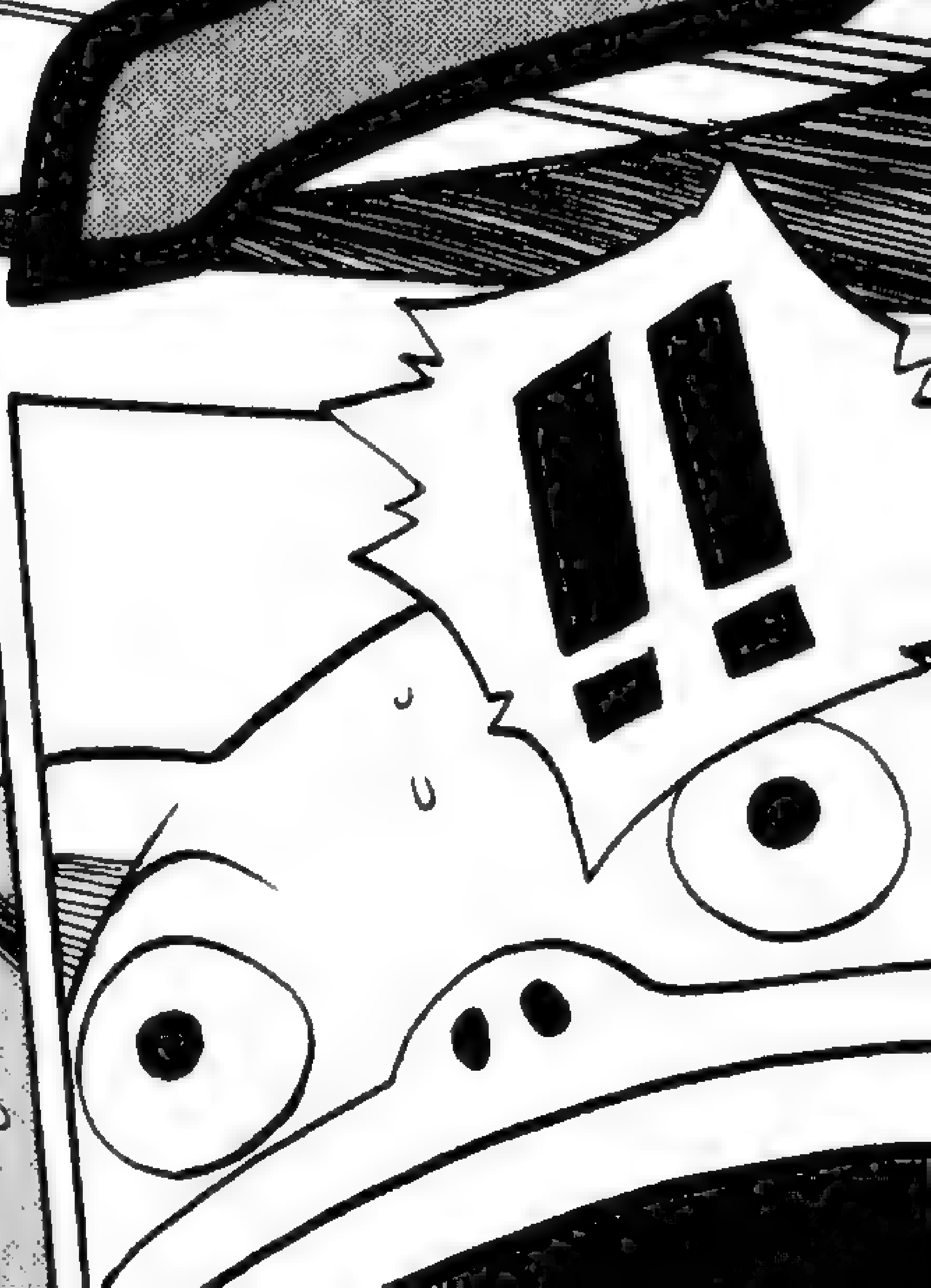
GO FOR IT HARU, POYO!! YOU CAN BEAT DORYU, POYO!!
BEAT ME?

I APOLOGIZE IF SPLITTING MY HELMET GAVE YOU A FEEBLE GLIMMER OF HOPE.
BUT NEVER FEAR...THAT FEELING WILL SOON PASS.
STUCK...
...UP...
...JERK!!
THIS IS NO GAME, RAVE MASTER.
I TIRE OF YOU.
IT IS TIME. DEATH LONGS TO EMBRACE YOU.

TWILIGHT SWORD!!
COME, BOY.
HARU, WATCH OUT, POYO!! THAT SWORD HAS DARK MAGIC, POYO!!
A DARK-ALIGNED SWORD, HUH?
WHAT THE--?! HOW'D HE GET A SWORD?!

FINE, THEN! LET'S DANCE!!
RUBY... WATCH CLOSELY.
SLIP
?
THE RAVE MASTER'S SWORD AGAINST MINE.
YOU CHOOSE YOUR SIDE, LITTLE ONE.
WHETHER OR NOT YOU CHOSE WISELY SHALL BE DECIDED BEFORE THIS FEATHER TOUCHES THE GROUND.
EXPLOSION SPEED COMBO...


...SILVER DRI--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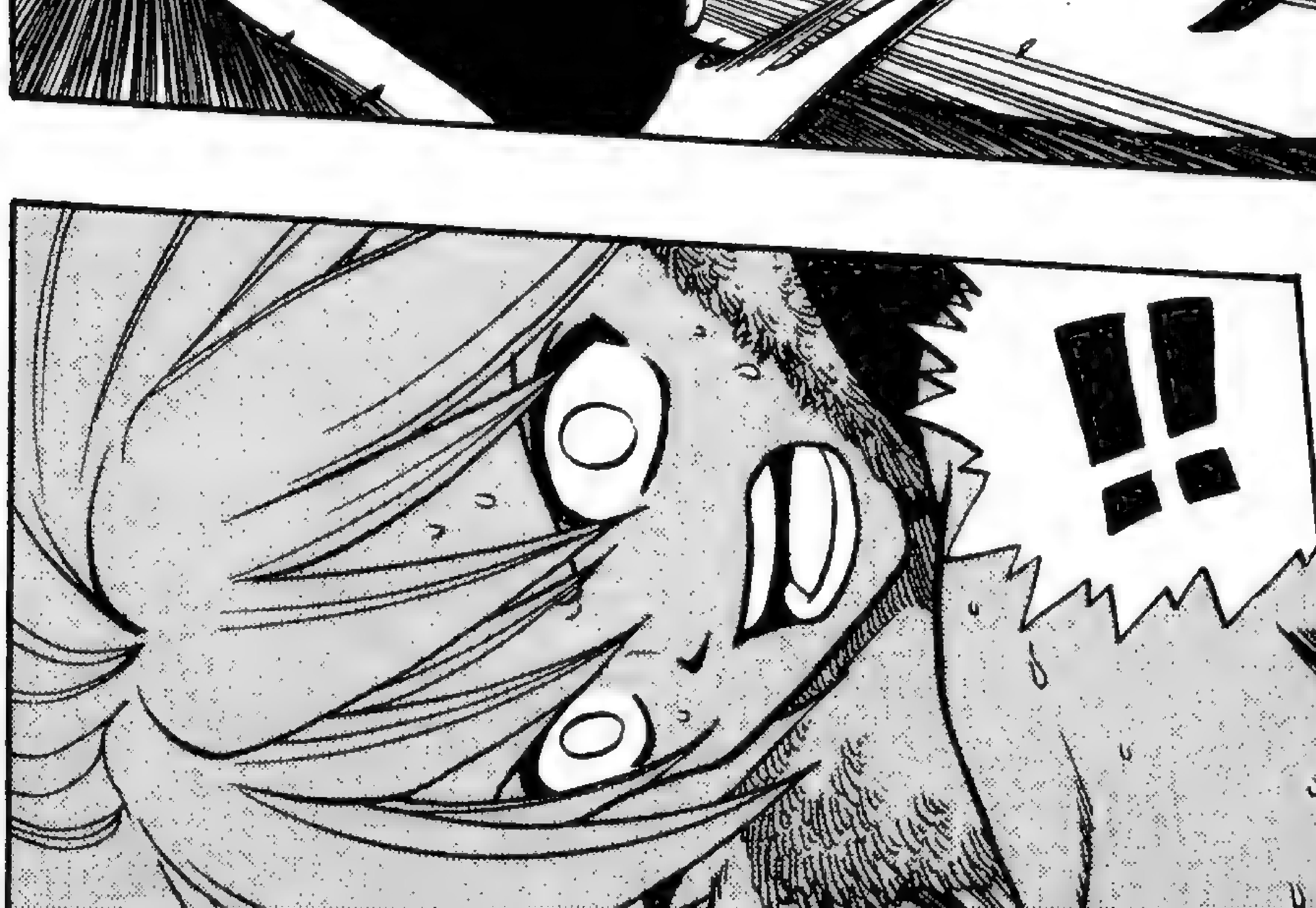

!!

W-WHAT HAP-PENED?!
WHEN DID HE SWING?!
MY POWER ATTACK MUST'VE LEFT AN OPENING...!
SECOND TIME'S THE CHARM...
BLUE CRIM--
SLICE
PATHETIC.
SPURT
HARU!!

THE WEAK ALWAYS SUCCUMB TO FEAR.
THE FEARFUL WILL INEVITABLY QUIVER AND FALL INTO DARKNESS.
THE OPENING WASN'T THE PROBLEM!
HE'S JUST TOO FAST... FASTER THAN SILFARION, EVEN!
YOUR DEATH IS NECESSARY...
...TO SPAWN A WORLD OF DARKNESS...
...RADIANT ONE.
HE'S TOO STRONG!!
WHAT DO I DO NOW?!

HOW CAN I BEAT HIM?!
CRAP!
I NEED TIME TO THINK!
MEL FORCE !!
!
MEL FORCE
ギュオオオ
ギュウ!
NO WAY!!
HE'S STILL COMING!!

WHY DO YOU EVEN BOTHER?
WHAT IS THIS?!
I DON'T GET IT!
FALL INTO DARKNESS!!
GYAAAAAAH!!

YOU STILL DO NOT KNOW THE TRUE POWER OF MY DARK BRING...
...THE GRAVITY CONTROL SINCLAIRE, VAMPIRE!
GRAVITY IS THE FORCE OF MUTUAL ATTRACTION.
NO MATTER WHAT ATTACK YOU USE, I CAN CLOSE THE DISTANCE TWICE AS FAST.
ズザァ…
AT ITS MOST EXTREME... IT CAN PULL PHYSICAL MATTER INTO DARKNESS.
WH- WHAT THE --?!
NOOOOOO!!
CLENCH
WAY TO LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!!
ゴオオオ

EXPLOSION
HUH?
UWAAH!!
W-WHAT, POYO?! HIS ATTACK DIDN'T CONNECT, POYO!
REPULSION. A POWER THAT PUSHES TWO BODIES APART.
THAT MEANS...MY ATTACKS CAN'T MAKE CONTACT?!
PRECISELY. AS I STATED BEFORE, I'VE SURPASSED KING.
I'VE MASTERED **ONE HUNDRED PERCENT** OF MY DARK BRING'S POWER.
?

I CAN DRAW ON THE POWERS OF GRAVITY AND REPULSION--TWO OPPOSING FORCES--FROM THIS DB.
I HAVE MASTERED MY DB MORE THAN DEMON CARD EVER COULD.
GU...
THE DEEP DARKNESS BECKONS YOU.
THE LIGHT OF RAVE FADES BEFORE THE MASTERY OF DARK BRING.
HARU!! HANG IN THERE, POYO!!
THE WOUNDS INFLICTED BY THE TWILIGHT SWORD DEEPEN IN DARKNESS.
FURTHERMORE, SUCH WOUNDS CANNOT BE HEALED BETWEEN DUSK AND DAWN.
GWAAH!!

DORYU! PLEASE, STOP, POYO!
I'LL GIVE YOU ALL MY MONEY IF YOU STOP, POYO!
WHAT'S THIS?
RUBY... DON'T...
....DON'T G-GIVE HIM...YOUR MONEY.
Huff
YOU CAN'T... GIVE YOUR DADDY'S M-MONEY... TO BAD P-PEOPLE...
Huff
Huff
B-BUT HARU'S LIFE IS MORE IMPORTANT, POYO!
THE THOUGHT... IS GOOD ENOUGH...
JUST WAIT...I'LL AVENGE... YOUR DADDY FOR YOU...

WHO CARES ABOUT REVENGE, POYO?!
HARU'S LIFE IS MORE IMPORTANT, POYO!!
DON'T YOU GET IT, POYO?!
I DON'T NEED MONEY, POYO!!
FRIENDS ARE MUCH MORE IMPORTANT, POYO!!
IF I HAVE FRIENDS, I DON'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE, POYO!!
RUBY ...

THAT'S WHY... ...YOU HAVE TO LIVE, POYO...
Sob...
HARU GIVES EVERYONE HOPE, POYO...
YOU WISH TO SAVE HIS LIFE? THEN COME BACK TO ME, RUBY.
ADMIT YOU MADE A MISTAKE IN FOLLOWING THIS MAN.
Sob...
Whimper...
MY MONEY....
!
YOU CAN HAVE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT...
Sob...
...BUT I'LL NEVER GIVE YOU MY HEART, POYO!
I WASN'T WRONG, POYO!
ずびー...
I'M PROUD TO BE WITH HARU, POYO!

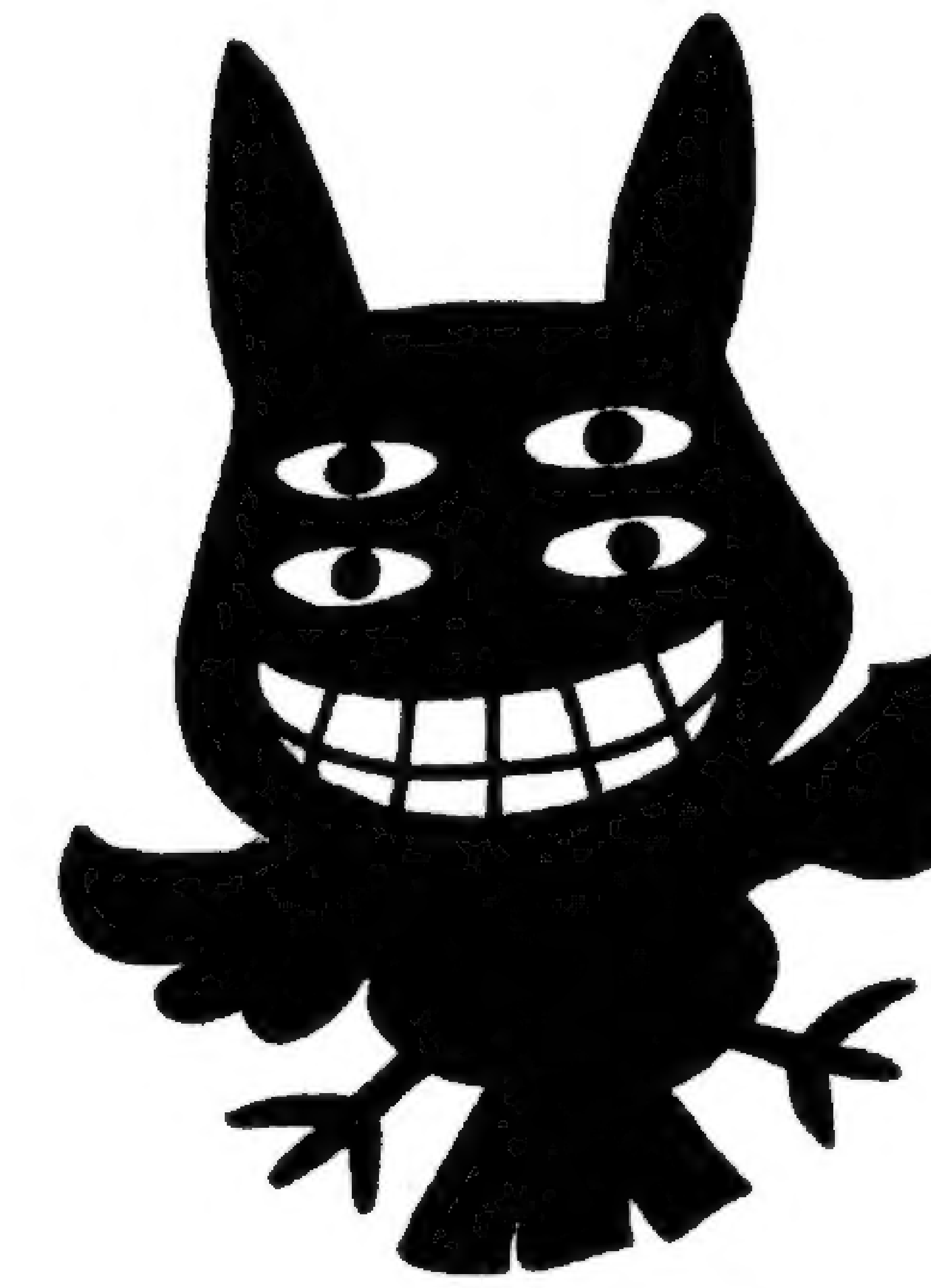
I SEE.
パチーン
THE DEAL'S OFF, THEN.
RUBY... YOUR DADDY NEVER GAVE MONEY TO BAD GUYS... EVER.
Huff
Huff
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS, THEN BELIEVE IN WHAT HE DID!
!!
I WON'T GIVE UP, EITHER!
NO MATTER HOW STRONG THE ENEMY!!

I'M FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MY FATHER!!
HARU...
Huff
Huff
Huff

THOSE WITH SUCH GRANDIOSE BELIEFS...
...ARE ALL THE MORE PATHETIC WHEN THEY SHATTER...
...AND THEIR SOULS...
...VANISH INTO DARKNESS.
ぞわっ

WHEN A GREAT LIGHT IS EXTINGUISHED...
GAK
KOFF
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
...AN EQUALLY GREAT DARKNESS RISES.
WOBBLE
DORYU!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, POYO?!
AND NOW, MANKIND...
...HAS LOST ITS ONLY HOPE!

TO BE CONTINUED



The votes have been tallied!

THE BAT HAS BEEN NAMED!!

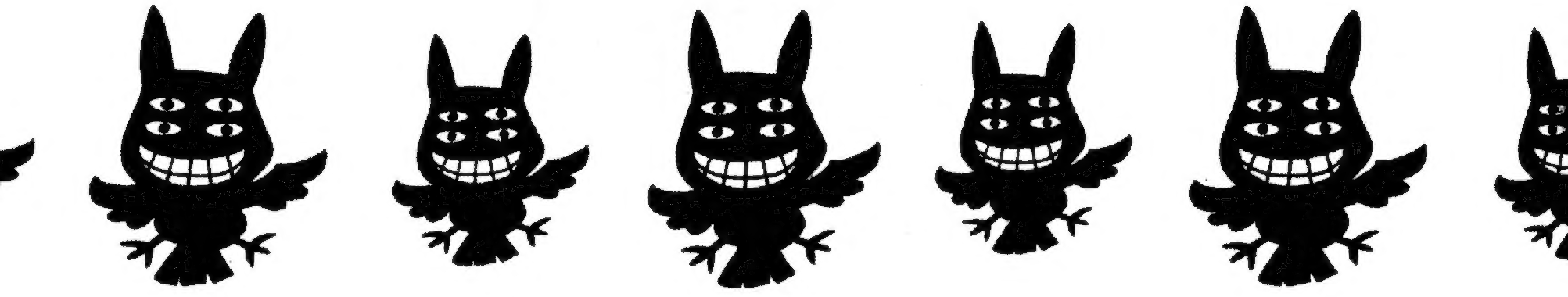
BOI BOI

Well, I didn't think I'd get one thousand plus votes for a small fry character like this. Really, I'm surprised. Boi Boi, huh? It definitely has a ring to it--so the name's final!!

Other candidates were JIO, PISKO, BRAKKI, etc. The most popular name was KIKI (by a pretty wide margin). BECKY, BEAL, and lots of other wacky names, too. Everyone, thanks so much for sending in your votes!!

By the way, it'll be a little while longer until Boi Boi appears again.

Well, this worked out pretty nicely. There're more little guys where he came from, so keep checking in--and keep having fun!!



#14 - Love Is Good

OH, LEVIN...
...LET'S PLAY!!
AH! IT'S ROSE!
DO I LOOK CUTE?
ピッ
REAL CUTE.
くるっ
T-TODAY'S NOT GOOD...! EH HEH HEH...
There's a pervert here.
EH?! BUT WHY?!
MOM AND DAD ARE OFF MAKING A MOVIE SOMEWHERE. WHY CAN'T THEY TAKE ME? I'M AN ACTRESS, TOO!
ぷー
CHINO HAS BEEN IN HIS ROOM GIGGLING ALL DAY! I'M SO BORED!
WELL, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT!
ぬうん
Down, Nakajima! Down!!
HUH?!
Levin never *dreamed* that this might turn into a love triangle...

To be continued...?

"AFTERWORDS"

HI, EVERYONE! DID YOU TAKE THE TRASH OUT? MASHIMA, HERE. THIS TIME I'LL TALK ABOUT THE FUN, FUN **RAVE** STAFF!

FIRST THE MANAGER--ACTUALLY THERE ARE **EIGHT** MANAGERS FOR RAVE. EVERYONE'S FREE TO GIVE THEIR OPINION. I MAY BE THE AUTHOR, BUT IT'S A BIG HELP HAVING LOTS OF SUPPORT EVERY DAY.

MATSUKI-SAN (NICK: M KISHI) IS QUITE A MIRACLE-WORKER. HE KEEPS ME FROM BEING TOO LONG-WINDED WHEN I WRITE HERE (^_^). IF YOU WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE "**RAVE 0**" GUIDE BOOK. I'LL COVER EVERYTHING ELSE IN DUE TIME. (LIKE THE REAL STORY BEHIND RUBY'S WAY OF SPEAKING.)

YOSHIDA-SAN: A REAL VETERAN. HE'S THE NICE MAN WHO KEEPS AN EYE ON ALL THE NEW KIDS. (LIKE ME!) HE'S ALSO A SERIOUS ACTOR. JUST SIMPLY A REALLY INTERESTING GUY!

YOSHIMOTO-SAN (NICK: PUYO): FOR SOME REASON MATSUKI-SAN CALLS HIM "PUYO." HE'S OUR MAN ON WHEELS.

NEXT--THE ASSISTANTS!

CHIEF NAKAMURA (A.K.A. NAKAMURA OF SASUGA): EXTREMELY DEDICATED AND REALLY GOOD AT HIS JOB. WEARS SHORTS, EVEN IN THE WINTER.

CHAP CHINKERS: A CLASSIC HORROR FILM BUFF. FIRST IN LINE FOR ALL THE NEW BLOCKBUSTERS, TOO. AROUND THE TIME THIS VOLUME CAME OUT HE QUIT TO PURSUE HIS OWN WRITING. THINKS DIFFERENTLY FROM OTHER PEOPLE--REALLY QUITE A CHARACTER. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING!

MANGA ROCK (^_^): THAT'S HIS PEN NAME. LOVES ROCK & GUITAR, JUST LIKE I DO. SAYS AND DOES A LOT OF INEXPLICABLE THINGS. A REAL PRANKSTER.

WELL, THAT'S THE **RAVE** STAFF. I'M PRETTY BORING, SO IT'S GREAT TO HAVE ALL THESE FUN, INTERESTING PEOPLE AROUND ME!

- HIRO MASHIMA